JAN. 8, 1938

Literary DIGEST

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WHEN the little engines with the big smokestacks pulled railroad trains seventy years ago, here was the situation:

Wages were low. Service and safety were far below modern standards. *And freight rates were three times as high as they are today!*

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Long trains — pulled by modern engines — on modern tracks built with heavy rails — have brought today's fast freight service, higher wages for workers, greater safety for everybody.

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The TRAIN LIMIT BILL—passed by the United States Senate and waiting action by the House of Representatives — is aimed to make the railroads split up freight trains on the pretext that it is a safety measure.

But here's how the theory squares with the fact: safety records show that accidents to employes have been *reduced by nearly three-fourths* in the very years that freight trains have been lengthened and speeded up to give better service.

What this bill really does is to force the railroads backward — backward in safety — backward in service — backward in efficiency — backward in economy.

What it does is to clamp down and smother the whole spirit of enterprise, invention and progress which are America's hope of better transportation in the years ahead.

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ASSOCIATION OF
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

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LOOK SUCCESSFUL—*BE* SUCCESSFUL!

■ A good, healthy coat of tan has a surprising effect on your appearance. Salesmen find their sales actually increase after they have acquired a real bronze *tan!* And you will become more popular, for women, too, admire that healthy outdoor look!

IMPROVES HEALTH AS WELL AS APPEARANCE!

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Give and Take

Consumer resistance

New York, N. Y.—I was struck by the unanimity of opinion expressed by the eight economists you picked for your query, "How's Business?"

Economics is a much more accurate science than most people believe. The trouble lies, not with the accuracy of expert predictions, but with their timing. It became evident a few years ago that uneconomic principles were being forced on this nation; the breakdown now at hand is the result.

Lack of confidence comes from the failure of unsound experiments. Business management, for selfish reasons, is more concerned with general welfare than anyone else. There is no disagreement anywhere concerning the need of purchasing power and the effort to raise the standard of living, but certain elementals are of vital importance to achieve these ends.

Higher wages are a result of profitable business, to which the efficiency of labor is essential. Peace is a requisite. Lower cost of goods to consumers is just as much a factor in raising the standard of living as increased wages. Costs of doing business, therefore, must be kept down; for it is impossible for business to pass on rapidly rising costs without consumer resistance. — *Maurice S. Benjamin*

No annulment

Ottawa, Canada—You state that Prince von Starhemberg, prior to his recent marriage to the Viennese actress, "obtained from the ecclesiastical courts an annulment, by mutual consent, of his marriage to his first wife."

There is, in canon law, no such thing as a decree of nullity "by mutual consent"; nor could there be, since there is no such thing as an undefended action. Attached to every ecclesiastical court, including appellate courts, is a priest skilled in canon law, known as the *Defensor Vinculi* (defender of the marriage bond). He is bound to oppose every such application, to use every legitimate means to prevent a decision favorable to the applicant, and to appeal against such a decision to a higher court if there appears any reasonable chance of success.

It is incorrect to speak of "annulment" of marriage. If there has been a consummated marriage between baptized persons, Catholic doctrine declares no power on earth can terminate it. All an ecclesiastical court can do is to find, on sworn evidence, that there never was a valid marriage. Such a finding is a mere opinion; but through it a Catholic, if in good faith, is entitled to enter into a subsequent union.—*W. L. Scott*

Painless like the rack

Santa Barbara, Calif.—In your article discussing a national lottery the expression "painless taxation" was used. However devised, painless taxation is vicious. Awaking from an anesthetic, a person may find himself minus a limb. That he didn't feel it being taken off does not alter the fact that he is a cripple. The lottery may anesthetize the citizenry—but to their undoing.

What we really need is an extremely sensitive taxation nerve center. Each tax should be visible. We should be absolutely aware of each gouge. Then perhaps the taxpayers would awake to the fact that they are supporting a huge number of people—not those on relief—for whom they have no responsibility whatever. Painless taxation is what the spenders of the tax money want.

Bear in mind that "the power of taxation is the power of confiscation."—*R. L. P. H.*

Literary
DIGEST

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Literary DIGEST

Story of a Week

A BOOKMAKER, according to the dictionary, is "a professional betting man, especially one connected with the turf." "Not so," said the Chicago City Council recently. "A bookmaker is a broker."

The change in nomenclature was made in an ordinance which, according to the Chicago *Times,* will legalize horse-race betting in Chicago, add $2,000,000 in license fees to the city's revenues, and restore municipal salaries to predepression levels. But, says Dan Russell, racing editor of the Chicago *Daily News,* it will also "make Chicago a mecca for white-hatted gents eager to exchange a $3000 certificate of good character for a franchise to gyp the public."

Transformation of naughty bookmakers into well-behaved brokers was the idea of Mayor Edward J. Kelly and Corporation Counsel Barnet D. Hodes incorporated in a swift move to legalize horse-race betting, forbidden, except at tracks, by Illinois law. "The cities and villages act of the state specifically gives to Chicago the power to tax, license and regulate brokers," Mr. Hodes explained. "There is no specification as to the kind of brokers the city may license."

The measure, passed by a vote of 43-4 and signed by Mayor Kelly, became effective this week and faces speedy attack in the courts. "The ordinance may or may not be within the law," said the Chicago *Tribune,* "but it does not bring race-track gambling into the city, because it has been here a long time. If it does not change the character of the men running the business, it cannot possibly make them any worse."

Governor Henry Horner of Illinois refused to take Chicago's ordinance seriously. "It is a nullity," he said. "It has no legal basis."

"It ends hypocrisy," retorted Kelly.

NAVY second to none

THIRTY years ago, as America and Japan bickered over the segregation of Japanese children in California schools, President Theodore Roosevelt asked Congress for more battleships. When peace societies objected, he said:

"In the event of a crisis arising, the peace advocates who object to our building up the navy would be powerless to prevent this country from going to war. All they could do would be to prevent its being successful in the war. A strong navy is the surest guaranty of peace and the cheapest insurance against war that Uncle Sam can possibly pay."

Now, faced by new difficulties with Japan growing out of the sinking of the gunboat *Panay,* President Franklin D.

THIS WEEK

Cover in candid color of Audrey and Charlie McCarthy by Maxwell F. Coplan (*see page 16*)

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LITERARY DIGEST *receives special news service from United Press*

PHOTOS FROM INTERNATIONAL

"HIS STOMACH is a good deal like his mind. It is a little weak," says John L. Lewis, speaking of William Green's refusal to assimilate the four millions of the C.I.O. into the A.F. of L.

"DICTATOR LEWIS," says William Green, "turned thumbs down" on the peace proposals offered by the A.F. of L., though the C.I.O. delegates had accepted them

Roosevelt, like his strenuous predecessor, asks Congress for more battleships to insure peace. "To keep the peace," he said not long ago, is our "fundamental policy. I believe it consistent with our continuing readiness to limit armaments to maintain a defense at sea sufficient to insure the preservation of our democratic ideals."

A recent survey by the United Press shows that the government has under construction or contract 75 new ships: 2 superdreadnaughts, 2 aircraft carriers, a heavy cruiser, 17 submarines, 9 light cruisers and 45 destroyers.

Early on the program of the regular session of Congress, which began last Monday, is the joint plea of the President and Secretary of the Navy Swanson for 2 additional superdreadnaughts and 20 smaller craft. Pursuing the policy of "a navy second to none," Mr. Roosevelt has asked for an appropriation of $50,000,000 above the $526,000,000 provided for the current fiscal year.

In messages to the LITERARY DIGEST the President's proposal was supported by members of Congress and attacked by officers of peace societies.

"In view of the activity of the great powers in increasing their naval strength," said Senator Walsh of Massachusetts, "we should at once plan for additional enlargement of our navy."

But Frederick J. Libby, executive secretary of the National Council for the Prevention of War, thought that "any proposal to increase the navy beyond its present strength must mean that the President's foreign policy is based on the assumption that we are going to get into a foreign war. The present fleet, according to navy officials, is more than adequate to protect the nation against invasion. If the government has any plans for fighting in Europe or Asia, the President should take the people into his confidence."

Melvin J. Maas, senior Republican member of the House Naval Affairs Committee, disagreed. "Our total navy today," he stated, "is inadequate to protect either coast. We need particularly many more airplanes, airplane carriers, aircraft tenders and advanced air patrol bases. No strong nation with a powerful navy has ever been attacked. An adequate navy will be far less expensive than a war which may result from a weak navy."

Estelle M. Sternberger, executive director of World Peaceways, declared that the President's request is defensible only if the policy pursued in China and in the Philippines is sound. "But if one holds, as I do, that our policies in the Far East are injurious to the peace and prosperity of the United States," she said, "one must conclude that our navy must be built for home defense only and not for extricating us from embarrassing situations abroad."

LABOR rift widens

"WE BROKE UP. It is all off." Thus George M. Harrison, chairman of an American Federation of Labor committee which had been trying to make peace with the Committee for Industrial Organization, admitted "complete failure" of two months' negotiations.

The C.I.O. was formed in 1935 to promote industrial unionism. The craft-minded A.F. of L. had agreed to this form of organization for mass-production industries a year before at its San Francisco convention, but the C.I.O. accused it of failing to fulfill its agreement.

Today, the original issue of industrial vs. craft unionism appears to be settled. It "could be settled easily" under the San Francisco formula, William Green, Federation president, concedes. In announcing the failure of the recent peace conference, Mr. Harrison agreed that there was no grave difference as regards the craft or so-called industrial union. The real problem was to bring into unity the dual and conflicting unions created by the C.I.O."

Both sides agreed that the ten original C.I.O. unions, which had been suspended from the Federation, should be taken back. But they could not agree on the twenty-two new unions established by the C.I.O. Many of these occupy fields in which there are A.F. of L. unions also. The Federation insisted that these jurisdictional disputes must be ironed out before the new C.I.O. unions were absorbed. "We are not going to let anyone bring this labor war into our house," Mr. Green announced. "It is better as it is now."

The C.I.O., said John L. Lewis, its chairman, wished to "merge into the A.F. of L. . . . with its entire 4,000,000 members. The A.F. of L. . . . would like to have about a million new members to see how they could digest them first, and think about the other 3,000,000. . . . They will digest all of us or none of us."

When the A.F. of L. preferred to digest none, hopes for peace went glimmering. "Intensification of the interunion war is now looked for on a wide front," wrote Louis Stark, veteran labor reporter, in the New York *Times*. "The A.F. of L. is expected to issue . . . charters to unions in all fields occupied by the C.I.O., and the latter will probably call a constitutional convention in the spring to set up a new national labor center as a rival to the A.F. of L."

HIT and lose drivers

AFTER the first of February motorists holding liability insurance are going to get more satisfaction out of paying their premiums. For, according to an announcement of the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, instead of kissing their money goodbye, they will look forward to a 15 per cent refund if they come through the year without nicking any fenders.

The National Bureau's announcement followed a long study of means to encourage safe driving by insured motorists. "Make safety profitable to the driver," was the conclusion reached.

The plan was widely approved. The average driver, said J. R. Crossley, vice-

president of the American Automobile Association, feels that if he has escaped accidents for several years his insurance rate should be lower than if he had been in frequent road encounters. "Here is a definite reward offered the man who operates his car in a careful and prudent manner and we hope it will bring about the desired results."

Alfred Reeves, vice-president and general manager of the Automobile Manufacturers' Association, said: "It is a step in the right direction. It shows real enterprise on the part of the companies. A refund is the proper reward for the safe driver which we have long advocated."

William H. Cameron, president of the National Safety Bureau, declared that "Practically all accidents are preventable by greater caution on the part of those involved. We believe that careful motorists who drive year after year without bending a fender should be rewarded by lower insurance rates and we commend any move in that direction by insurance companies."

Spokesmen for insurance companies estimated that 9 out of 10 holders of bodily-injury and property-damage policies will qualify for the rebate.

WIRE-TAPPING tapped hard

TEN YEARS AGO federal agents tapped the telephone wires of a bootlegger in the state of Washington and obtained evidence resulting in his conviction. He appealed on the ground that the wire-tapping had violated his constitutional rights, but, in 1928, the United States Supreme Court, upheld his conviction by a vote of 5 to 4.

Said Chief Justice Taft for the majority: "A standard which would forbid the reception of evidence if obtained by other than nice ethical conduct would make society suffer and give criminals greater immunity than has been known before." Justice Holmes, for the minority, thought otherwise. "Wire-tapping is a dirty business," he said.

The other day the "dirty business" again was before the Supreme Court. Four men, convicted of smuggling on evidence obtained by wire-tapping, appealed on the ground that the Federal Communications Act, passed since the 1928 ruling to regulate interstate communication by wire or radio, made it illegal to intercept telephone messages. By a vote of 7-2 the Court sustained them, thus, in effect, reversing its earlier stand.

"For years controversy has raged with respect to the morality of the practice of wire-tapping," said the majority opinion delivered by Justice Roberts. "It has been the view of many that the practice involves a grave wrong. . . . The plain words of the Act forbid anyone to intercept a telephone message. . . . The Act includes within its sweep federal officers as well as others." The decision brought a sharp rejoinder from Justice Sutherland, who ascribed the majority opinion to "an overflow of sentimentality."

"My abhorrence of the odious practices of the town gossip, the Peeping Tom and the private eavesdropper is quite as strong as that of my brethren," he declared. "But to put the sworn officers of the law in the same category is to lose all sense of proportion. . . . The decision just made will necessarily have the effect of enabling the most depraved criminals to further their criminal plans over the telephone, in the secure knowledge that even if these plans involve kidnaping and murder, their telephone conversation can never be intercepted by officers of the law and revealed in court."

Commenting on Justice Sutherland's strictures, the Philadelphia *Inquirer* emphasized that "if freedom is to mean anything at all it must mean reasonable security for American citizens against government snoopers and Peeping Toms. On the ground of simple fairness there is no reason why the Communications Act should not apply to federal officers as well as others."

Admitting that the decision "may be a temporary setback to the cause of law enforcement," the Washington *Post* insisted that wire-tapping "has no place in a free country. If we wish to preserve the security of the home, it is better not to resort to such practices." In the opinion of the Boston *Herald*, however, "many will agree with the minority that the rejection of such evidence will be helpful to murderers, kidnapers, gangsters and criminals generally."

QUODDY as a school

THE DOLLARS spent on the Passamaquoddy project in Maine, have produced, not a dam, but a school. Last summer the National Youth Administration established a vocational training course on the site of the huge, incomplete power project.

The $36,000,000 scheme to harness the Bay of Fundy tides was begun in 1935 with expenditure of $5,000,000 of WPA funds. A year later, Congress refused to appropriate more money to continue the work. In 1937 the NYA took over the project with $150,000 to rehabilitate 225 young men from New England slums.

"The objective of this project," explains Aubrey Williams, executive director of the NYA, "is to provide a practical means of job orientation for young men who have been unable to make a choice of careers."

The difficulty, he says, is that heretofore "young people have gone out searching for jobs with almost no chance of getting them because they lacked experience and knowledge of their capabilities. At Quoddy we have tried—and I believe successfully—to discover a method of giving young people, in four or five months, a knowledge of what they can do and what types of work they are most interested in."

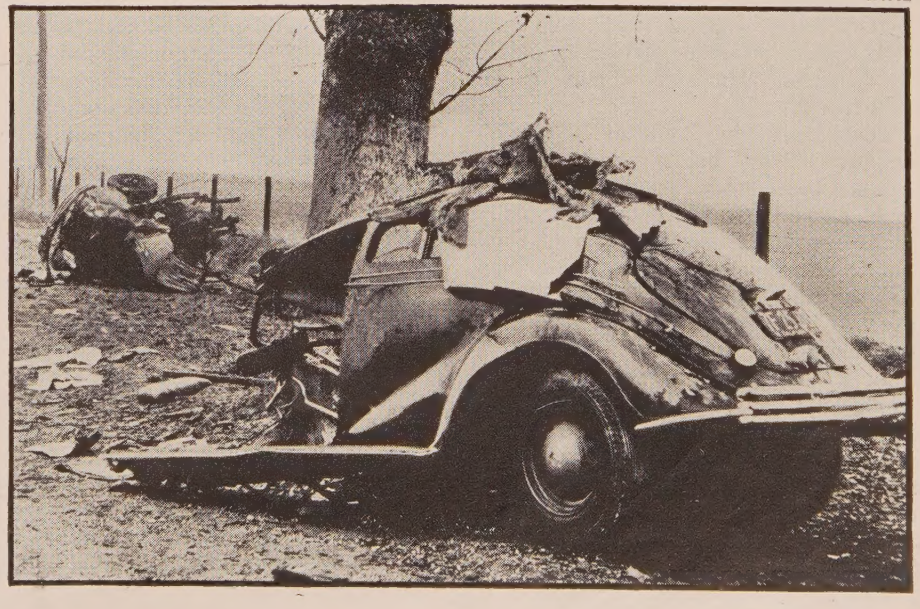
Unemployed when they entered the school, the boys, after finishing the course, could look for regular work with practical training in such crafts as carpentry, plumbing and electrical work. Mr. Williams reports that they were "unusually successful" in finding jobs.

Next week, Quoddy will open its doors to another group of 150 boys. "An excellent place for an academic quadrangle where federal educators can teach the hopeful young to make up their minds," remarks the Philadelphia *Bulletin*.

The Boston *Post*, however, doubts the wisdom of continuing the Quoddy training course: "There is no question that the

CUT IN TWO—Six men were killed instantly when this sedan in which they were riding at furious speed struck a tree and was cut in half. To lessen such accidents 38 insurance companies have agreed to rebate 15 per cent of his liability premium to any motorist who completes a full year without accident

ACME



PHOTOS FROM WIDE WORLD

INNER CIRCLE: Three men of the first importance in Japan are (reading from left to right) Premier Konoye; General Sugiyama, Minister of War; and Admiral Yonai. Japan's military chiefs are not subject to the cabinet, but equal it in power. Premier Konoye has so far bridged the gap between army and politicians

NYA has done a lot of good in its way, and probably has redeemed many a young man who faced the future with hopelessness. But is it right, as the rainbows of practicality begin to appear in a world of fact, not fancy, to continue to delude them with the thought that the government will continue to care for them?"

WAR on war bill

REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW'S proposed amendment to the Constitution faces a stiff fight on the floor when it is recalled from the Judiciary Committee next Monday, according to reports of Washington newspaper correspondents. This, it will be remembered, is the amendment which would forbid Congress, unless this country were actually invaded, to declare war without first getting the consent of the people by means of a nation-wide referendum.

"Of course," says the Washington *Post,* "the Ludlow resolution will not be passed by Congress." Mr. Ludlow, however, insists it will.

Handicapped by President Roosevelt's emphatic "No!" but supported by five national peace groups as "patriotic, sound and practical," it was attacked recently by Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of State during the Hoover administration, and Senator Key Pittman of Nevada, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In a long letter to the New York *Times,* Mr. Stimson declared that "no more effective engine for the disruption of national unity on the threshold of a national crisis could ingeniously have been devised."

Senator Pittman expressed the fear that "it would be the first step—and a fatal step—in the destruction of our republican form of government."

Undismayed, however, Representative Ludlow asked a group of distinguished Americans including William Allen White, Kansas editor, and Major General William C. Rivers, retired, to form a committee to popularize the amendment with the American people. General Rivers, in accepting the post of chairman of the committee, denied that the plan was impractical or would cause dangerous delay. "A referendum could be held in 48 hours," he said.

TAXES for 1938

A CENTURY and a half ago, Benjamin Franklin wrote that, "in this world, nothing is sure but death and taxes."

Last week this latter certainty in life took on added significance when a committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States predicted that the nation's tax load this year would consume 20 per cent of the national income, a ratio which the Chamber considers dangerous.

"Government agencies," the committee declares, "calculate that the total national income this year will be slightly below the $69,000,000,000 estimate for 1937. On this basis, the nation's tax collectors will dip into the national income and take one out of every five income dollars."

Collectively, these "one out of every five income dollars" will total $13,500,000,000, the committee estimates. Of this amount $6,400,000,000 will go to the federal government, $7,100,000 to states and municipalities.

Comparing this estimated figure with preceding years, the committee points out that "the $13,500,000,000 total forecast for 1938 will be 35 per cent above the 1936 total, 30 per cent above the 1930 peak, and 60 per cent above the maximum war-time yield in 1921."

FORD and labor

"LABOR union organizations are the worst thing that ever struck the earth, because they take away a man's independence," Henry Ford said last spring. "We'll never recognize the United Automobile Workers Union [C. I. O. affiliate] or any other union."

Henry Ford has long stood as a solid rock of individualism in industry. Four years ago he refused to sign the NRA code for the automobile industry, although the standards of work in his plants were admittedly better than those required by the code. More recently he has opposed the unionizing of his workers by the C. I. O. under the National Labor Relations Act.

"If you go into a union they have got you—but what have you got?" he asked in a "Fordism" distributed in his plants. He'll change his attitude, boasted John L. Lewis, chairman of the C. I. O.

But some days ago, when a showdown came nearer, there was no sign that Mr. Ford had changed his attitude. The NLRB found the Ford Motor Company guilty of violating the Labor Relations Act and ordered the company to stop interfering with, restraining, or coercing its employees, in the exercise of their rights of self-organization." It further ordered the company to cease dominating the Ford Brotherhood, a rival of the U. A. W., and to reinstate twenty-nine U. A. W. members discharged for union activity.

The decision condemned the "utter ruthlessness" with which Ford has fought the U. A. W. In particular it charged that the Ford Company was responsible for the "savage beatings" of May 26, when union members, including Richard T. Frankensteen, director of the unionizing drive on Ford, were pummeled while trying to distribute union literature.

The U. A. W., already engaged in strikes against Ford assembly plants in St. Louis and Kansas City and accumulating a "war chest" of $500,000 for a drive on all Ford plants, immediately hailed the decision.

"The victory of the union, establishing the right of Ford men to organize, will be received with . . . much rejoicing," Mr. Frankensteen declared. "Never before has a manufacturer been so severely castigated for sheer brutality and willful disregard for law so deservedly."

"The decision of the board is based on prejudice," replied the Ford Company. "It is not founded on the facts in the record. It is wrong and unjust. The company will appeal the decision to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals."

Congressmen immediately lined up pro and con. Said E. E. Cox, conservative Democrat from Georgia: "The NLRB is in such general disrepute that nobody has

any confidence in it." But Maury Maverick, liberal Democrat from Texas, urged that "The time has come to crack down. . . . Americans are offended by what [Ford] is doing."

Homer Martin, U. A. W. president, was "heartened" by the decision, which, he said, "proves" that "Henry Ford is a lawbreaker of the first order." Martin telegraphed to Harry H. Bennett, former lightweight boxing champion of the navy who is head of the Ford personnel department, a request for a conference to promote "industrial peace and proper labor relations." Mr. Bennett commented: "If I answered Martin's telegram—which I have no intention of doing—my reply would be 'phooey.' "

RADIO COURT vetoed

THE GOOD WILL COURT of the Air, born at Station WMCA in New York City, enjoyed but three months of life as a commercially-sponsored program in the fall of 1936. During its brief existence it served as an unofficial court where real legal cases, presided over by real judges sitting unofficially, were settled for persons unable to pay court costs.

The American Bar Association, the New York County Lawyers Association and other groups of lawyers strongly protested against this "hippodroming" of justice. Because of their objections, the program, begun in September, was discontinued in December.

Five months ago the Oregon and Washington State Bar Associations began their sponsorship of a series of twenty test broadcasts of a "Law Theater" of the air. Patterned roughly after the Good Will Court, it took its cases from legal records of cases already settled.

Eventually, a majority of the members of the two associations voted against the idea of such "institutional" publicity for their profession. Their decision was registered in a referendum held in December over Stations KOMO, Seattle; KHQ, Spokane; and KGW, Portland.

A possibility still remains, however, that other bar associations may try the broadcast, despite the disapproval of their West Coast colleagues. These groups may even use the same program which their western brethren rejected.

MONOPOLY under attack

IN HIS message to the special session of Congress on November 15, President Roosevelt urged prompt action to curb monopolies. "We should give special consideration to lightening inequitable burdens of the small business men of the nation," he said.

The special session ended last month without definite action on any of the President's proposals. But control of monopolies is one of the issues likely to come before the session which began on Monday of this week. A few days before Senators and Representatives took their seats, Robert H. Jackson, assistant attorney general in charge of anti-trust operations, in a radio address over the Mutual Broadcasting System network, warned "big business" to mend its ways and accused "monopolists" of having "priced themselves into a slump."

"When business goes into a slump," said Mr. Jackson, "the workmen go home without jobs. When workmen go home without jobs, the grocer, the baker, the clothier and all the rest have lost their customer. When the customer is lost the merchant cancels his order for goods.

"And when the cancellation reaches back to big business, where it started, the big business man clamors that government should give him confidence."

Mr. Jackson said he had no fear for the immediate future because "the President and Congress will not let the people down, but will protect them against the cruelties of any temporary recession we have to face." He insisted that no "major depression" was in sight.

Shortly after the Jackson speech, Senator Carl A. Hatch called for a Congressional investigation of alleged monopolistic practices of big business as outlined by the assistant attorney general.

He promptly was joined by Senator William E. Borah of Idaho. "I am heartily in accord with the view on monopoly," said Senator Borah. "I can see no recovery for the vast portion of our people so long as private interests fix prices and thereby continue to deplete purchasing power."

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney supported Mr. Jackson's objectives. "The only way to bring them about," he said, "is to adopt a plan for the future. There is not much hope of permanent correction of recognized evils in bringing lawsuits."

When the new anti-monopoly bill comes up in Congress, however, it will meet formidable opposition.

General Hugh S. Johnson in a CBS broadcast attacked Jackson's speech as defiant to business. "It won't work," he said. "It has been tried for five years and it didn't work."

DIRECT HIT: An anguished father in Nanking carries in his arms his dying child, victim of Japanese bombardment. Civilian mortality from the almost daily bombardment of Chinese cities by Japan's air forces accounts for a large proportion of the casualties, now estimated at 1,000,000 killed and wounded

PANAY incident closed?

AS CONGRESSMEN gathered in regular session last Monday to grapple with housing, crop control and other pressing domestic issues, Washington correspondents reported that many were concerned lest new developments in the Far East should shift major emphasis from internal problems to foreign complications.

The sinking of the gunboat *Panay* by Japanese bombers and the tense diplomatic situation that followed had turned thoughts of lawmakers to the possibility of war, had brought a pledge of coöperation with President Roosevelt from former Governor Alfred M. Landon, his rival in the last election; had caused wide discussion of the Ludlow war referendum amendment and had brought a call for "American leadership in world affairs without dawdling" from Colonel E. M. House, President Wilson's adviser.

"You and I both know that the American people want peace, but they want a peace that would enable us to maintain the respect of the other nations of the world," Mr. Landon wrote the President, promising "support in the difficult foreign situations confronting your administration." Thanking his former rival, President Roosevelt declared that "throughout our long history we Americans have rejected every suggestion that ultimate se-

INTERNATIONAL

TOURING THE TRENCHES: Major Clement R. Attlee, leader of the Labor Opposition in the British Parliament, is here seen talking to Spanish loyalist troops in front-line trenches. Major Attlee praised the soldiers highly, especially the Americans among them, whom he compared to Washington's men at Valley Forge

curity can be assured by closing our eyes to the fact that, whether we like it or not, we are a part of a large world of other nations and peoples."

A few days before the session began, Senator William E. Borah of Idaho, according to the Washington *Post,* warned against a "war psychology," but insisted that "we have a right and it is our duty to protect Americans and legitimate United States interests in China. I don't think that we ought to get out of China and neither do I think that, if we fail to do so, we are going to war with Japan."

Meanwhile the immediate crisis in our relations with Japan was relieved when Secretary of State Hull accepted Foreign Minister Hirota's note of apology—which promised "comprehensive indemnifications" and assurance of freedom from future attack—as being "responsive to the request made by the Government of the United States." Though Japan insisted the bombing of the *Panay* was due to a "mistake" and the United States maintained it was deliberate, the issue was not pressed.

"The decision not to push the matter," said the Hartford *Courant,* "in all probability reflects the attitude of the people of the United States, who, although deeply resentful of the disregard shown their flag and their nationals, are not yet so aroused over the conduct of the Japanese as to wish to fight them."

"This would seem to close the incident," remarked Senator Borah.

THRUSTS at China

FOLLOWING the capture of Nanking, Shanghai, and five lesser provincial capitals scattered about China, mostly in

CURRENT OPINION: The nation's editors comment upon the administration's policy toward the Far East

AMERICA doesn't want war in the Far East, but it is necessary that the nations having an interest in international trade make it clear to Japan that international law is still operative and that no nation can continue to violate it and keep the good will of self-respecting nations.—*Burlington (Vt.) Free Press*

"The time is not now opportune to withdraw United States troops and ships," says Secretary Hull, admitting that withdrawal was near at hand a few months ago. Had that been considered the opportune time, there would have been no *Panay* bombing. Just what does the State Department consider the "appropriate function" of our forces in the war zone? Aside from entirely selfish financial interests, just what have we there to protect except a few Americans who prefer to stay there and ought to do so at their own risk?—*Tampa (Fla.) Tribune*

Since signing the Nine-Power Treaty, Japan, taking advantage of our reduced navy and the unfortified state of our bases at Guam and Cavite, has broken every one of her promises, either in Manchuria or in China proper. And yet there are Americans who are so naïve as to think that Japan really desires our friendship, and that the attack on the *Panay* was not intentional.—*Chicago Daily News*

It is a grave mistake to assume that the American people have not been stirred by the unpardonable recklessness of the Japanese and their persistence in tactics which are bound to result sooner or later in a "delicate situation." The general feeling is one of intense resentment which may easily develop into a desire for rigorous retaliation if further incidents should take place. Even as it is, the unofficial boycott against Japan is likely to become more popular and more damaging to her.—*Boston Herald*

The present diplomatic maneuvers might well be more in terms of moral and economic measures than in talk of navy preparations and demonstrations, so long as the bomb that sank the *Panay* could have been made with American scrap iron or bought with American money. Talk of war to stop such incidents should be chiefly noticeable by its absence.—*The Christian Science Monitor*

There is nothing more certain than that the United States is not a warlike country and that we do not want to become involved either in the Orient or anywhere else. We should, however, stand up for our rights and insist that they be respected.—*Indianapolis Star*

The President would be well advised to re-read the war-time notes and speeches of Woodrow Wilson and, taking warning therefrom, move cautiously in proffering our leadership in these troubled times.—*Philadelphia Inquirer*

Keep other nations outside of the Western Hemisphere, and keep this nation inside the Western Hemisphere.—*New York Daily Mirror*

The surest way to put the United States into war may be to let it be known that we do not propose to fight under any circumstances. An attitude of pacifism is an invitation to attack.—*Los Angeles Times*

The United States does not want war. Her citizens abhor war. They must not close their eyes, however, to the fact that the world contains people less peace-minded than themselves.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

the north, the Japanese military machine continued to roll along last week.

In North China's Shantung province, homeland of the ancient philosopher Confucius, the local capital of Tsinan was taken. Meanwhile, in South China below Shanghai, another provincial capital, Hangchow, fell to Nipponese forces.

Shantung, a peninsula pointing northeast into the Yellow Sea, is one of the five northern provinces of China coveted by Japan. It is the one in which, until last week, Japanese armies had made the least progress. This is the province in which a German colony, Tsingtao, was seized by Japan early in the World War but surrendered to China later when pressure was exerted by the Washington Conference and the signers of its Nine-Power treaties. Now China is again in process of losing Shantung. Meanwhile, the Associated Press placed Chinese casualties in her war with Japan at a million.

UNREST in Nippon

As Japan fights China on five mainland battle fronts and faces diplomatic embroilment with three or four occidental nations at once, all is not harmony at home in the Nipponese islands. For 370 laborites and intellectuals were summarily jailed some days ago, and the leftist Proletarian and Farmer-Labor parties were suppressed, although represented by some 50 members of parliament.

Tokyo municipal police accused the 370 of pacifist and communist activities, including attempted sabotage of the war in China. Among the suspects were Kanju Kato, chairman of the general council of Japanese trade unions, and several prominent professors.

"Their movement apparently was to lead a general revolution based on communism," said the Tokyo police. "Since the outbreak of the Chinese war they have used every opportunity to spread anti-war propaganda throughout Japan."

"The proletarian groups," added an Associated Press cable from Tokyo, "were demanding regular labor wages for men called to the front in the Chinese campaign." Kato—himself an anti-imperialist—had just returned from a tour of the Chinese battle fronts, conveying his organization's greetings to the peasants and proletarians of the Japanese army.

"Following the arrests," said the A. P., "police raided headquarters of the [leftist] parties, where they said they confiscated radical literature, documents, and news reports . . . sent to Japan by the American Communist party. Documents were said to show a program calling for opposition to fascism and war."

RUSH for babies

"Uncommon and capricious," was the way in which Charles Vance Millar, noted Canadian sportsman, described his own will in its preamble. Clauses of the will left brewery shares to clergymen, and race-track shares to anti-racing reformers. It also provided that his estate of roughly $500,000 should go to the mother giving birth to the most children between October 31, 1926, and October 31, 1936.

Two of his outraged relatives assailed the validity of the will as "contrary to public policy," but a few days ago, wired the Canadian Press from Ottawa, the Canadian Supreme Court upheld it.

One candidate was a 34-year-old Canadian woman married fifteen years, who claimed to have borne sixteen children, including three sets of twins. Eleven of these, she insisted, counted in the 10-year tally, but she had birth certificates for only nine.

From snowy Canada the scene shifts to sunny Italy. There, at Rome, the most prolific mothers gathered recently to receive prizes from Mussolini for high-total families. Under the rules, only living, healthy children born since April 15, 1926, counted in the reckoning—this being the date of the founding of the Maternity and Infancy Organization.

A Naples butcher's wife won first place, with ten children. Some 95 mothers won prizes, with a total of 738 children. Prizes amounted to 5000 lire each, plus 1000 lire in insurance. Most of the winners were peasant women, but one noble lady scored with seven little ones.

VICTORY for loyalists

Parts of "impregnable" Teruel, a strategic Spanish insurgent stronghold in the mountains between loyalist Madrid and Valencia, fell to the cream of the Spanish loyalist army some days ago after six days of bitter fighting in a blizzard and 50-mile an hour gale. Observers agreed that it was the greatest loyalist victory in 18 months of civil war.

Some 70,000 loyalists, surprising the 60,000 insurgent defenders of the walled city, swooped down from the encircling mountains while planes zoomed overhead and searchlights weaved fingers of light into the snowy sky. They crawled through an outlying cemetery, dynamited their way through streets, fought hand-to-hand. The weather was biting cold.

Giving vent to his feelings about the "icy blasts," Herbert Matthews, war correspondent for the New York *Times* at the Teruel battle front, described how "your eyes fill with constant tears from the sting of it; your fingers swell and become numb and all feeling goes out of your feet except an overwhelming iciness; you gasp for breath and cannot stand in one spot, for the wind buffets you like a fighter boring in." Soldiers on both sides fell exhausted, but the loyalists were warmed by their victory.

This is their first major success since they broke up last June's insurgent offensive against besieged Madrid. Teruel, population 20,000, is the largest city yet captured by the government. More important, it was the logical starting place for any insurgent drive to cut loyalist Spain in two and reach the Mediterranean coast. Its capture by loyalists shatters insurgent General Franco's hold on the loyalist Madrid-Valencia life line.

Loyalist sympathizers the world over were buoyed up by the victory. In the United States, Harry Gannes, communist columnist of the New York *Daily Worker*, rejoiced: "That long-overdue, much-advertised, clinching offensive that fascist General Franco was going to unleash . . .

NAZI IN SPAIN: A letter from Vigo, Spain, a city now held by the insurgents, recently arrived in New York with this apparently official stamping in red

WIDE WORLD

WIDE WORLD

IRELAND'S NEXT PRESIDENT may be Count Edward Taaffe, a country gentleman of Czechoslovakia (where he is famous for his cheeses), who bears an Austrian title. His family left Ireland for Austria 250 years ago. Count Taaffe, whom President De Valera is said to favor, is shown here with his Irish wife

has backfired." In the New York *Post,* Ludwig Lore declared that Spain's severe winters and icebound roads would force General Franco, after his Teruel defeat, "to postpone his long-heralded 'grand offensive' until next spring at least."

In London, fresh from a front-line trip to loyalist Spain, Major Clement Attlee, Labor leader in the British Parliament, made an international broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System. Referring to the American volunteers in the loyalist International Brigade, Major Attlee remarked: "I thought the American boys, willing to give . . . even their lives for the defense of freedom . . . were worthy sons of the land of Abraham Lincoln. I compared them with the men who endured with Washington at Valley Forge."

Lecturing in America, Major Ludwig Renn, German author, World War veteran, and now chief of this International Brigade, discussed the Teruel victory. "The loyalist psychology," he said, "now is attack, attack."

JAILS OPEN in Cuba

A SWEEPING amnesty law designed to liberate every political prisoner in Cuba recently passed the Cuban Senate and House of Representatives. Thus the two-fisted military regime of Colonel Fulgencio Batista—ex-barber, carpenter, cane worker, buck private, military stenographer, and now the island's virtual dictator—dons the velvet glove of political forgiveness.

"This amnesty," commented *Diario de la Marina,* a leading Havana newspaper, "is perhaps the most immediate and most important step toward filling the constituent assembly"—the national convention which will soon be called to frame a new Constitution for Cuba. "It is practically impossible to accomplish this while politicians are in prison and in exile," the newspaper remarked, advocating "a generous liquidation of all the past."

This means that, among others, ex-President Gerardo Machado, an exile since the 1933 revolution swept him out of power, will be washed clean of all charges. Thus, the recent efforts of the Cuban State Department to extradite him from the United States will end. At the same time, Machado's followers and members of his dread secret police—La Porra—will be freed from Cuban jails.

Political amnesty also signifies the end of a long revolutionary period in Cuba. Only four years ago, when Batista and the army swept into power, no punishment was too rough for Machado's men. They were manhandled, stoned, shot. Private dwellings, the President's palace, and banks were looted as Cubans, freed of Machado's suppressions, ran riot with their new-found liberty. Political power tumbled into the streets.

That political power has been picked up by Batista, his well-equipped army, a willing Congress, and a friendly President, Frederico Laredo Bru.

Apparently Batista's regime is now so firmly entrenched and Cuba's trade so improved, that he can afford to forgive his opponents.

He wants, moreover, to have a united Cuba behind him in pressing his new 3-Year Plan of social and economic reform to a successful conclusion. He broached this idea recently over an international radio hookup arranged by Cincinnati's station WLW. From Havana, Batista explained in hesitant English: "My plan is a summary of the programs and platforms of all political parties"—in Cuba there are three leading parties, innumerable factions—"except that this is no longer hope or theory but reality."

PEOPLE OF A WEEK

Birth—To *Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fonda,* a daughter. Mrs. Fonda, the former Mrs. George T. Brokaw, married the screen star in September, 1936.

Birthdays—*James Roosevelt,* eldest son of the President, his thirtieth. He observed the occasion quietly at his work as secretary to his father—a job he took over a year ago. . . . *Cornelius McGillicuddy* (*Connie Mack*), the "grand old gentleman" of baseball, veteran of fifty-four years with the game; his seventy-fifth. He has been manager of the Philadelphia Athletics since 1901.

Marriage—*Miss Barbara Field,* daughter of Marshall Field, Chicago merchant, and *Anthony Addison Bliss,* grandson of the late Cornelius N. Bliss, Secretary of the Interior under President McKinley.

Appointments—*Ebert K. Burlew,* of Pennsylvania, a career man in government service, as First Assistant Secretary of the Interior. . . . *Sir Archibald John Kerr Clark Kerr,* British Ambassador in Bagdad, as Ambassador to China to succeed Sir Hughe Montgomery Knatchbull-Hugessen, who was severely wounded in a Japanese airplane attack at Shanghai several months ago. . . . *Count Rene Doynel de St. Quentin,* as French Ambassador to the United States, succeeding Georges Bonnet, present Minister of Finance. Accomplished and distinguished, the fifty-four year old bachelor is of the traditional classic French school of diplomacy.

Deaths—*Frank Billings Kellogg,* 80, Secretary of State under President Coolidge, former World Court judge, who became an outstanding international figure through the Kellogg-Briand war-renouncing pact, for which in 1929 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. . . . *Jake Kilrain,* 78, last of the bare-knuckle fighters, who slugged with Champion John L. Sullivan for seventy-five rounds in 1889 at Richburg, Mississippi, in a vain attempt to lift the heavyweight crown. . . . *Ted Healy,* 41, stage and screen comedian. . . . *Newton D. Baker,* 66, Secretary of War in President Wilson's cabinet from 1916 to 1921. A pacifist "in my prayers," he raised an army of 4,000,000 men for service abroad when America entered the World War in 1917. Advocate of American membership in the League of Nations, he worked for peace and practiced law after retiring from the cabinet.

Reading Around the World

a timely digest of the best in print and on the air

RED GOLD RUSH

from "The Saturday Evening Post"

MY FRIENDS in this country are astonished when I tell them that an unadvertised gold rush has been taking place during the past five years in Soviet Russia. They suspect me of romancing when I describe how several hundred thousand Soviet citizens are today roaming the unexplored gold-bearing regions of the Soviet Far East and Kazakstan, all lured on by the hope of getting rich quick. They are incredulous when I tell of illiterate men and women who, by one lucky strike in the gold fields, today receive from the Soviet Government the equivalent of 100 years of hard work in factory or farm. Somehow, these facts do not square with their preconceptions of Soviet Russia.

But these things are all perfectly true. I was the first American engineer engaged to work in the Soviet gold fields. In the years between 1933 and 1937, my wife and I have seen and talked with thousands of the adventurous prospectors who are pushing back Russia's eastern frontiers in the search for gold. We have watched men and women at work in placer mines along the Amur River and the shores of Lake Baikal in Russia's Far East; in the Arctic empire of Yakutsk with the temperature 80 degrees below zero F.; and in Kazakstan, along the borders of Chinese Turkestan. We have been given a glass of tea and a piece of black bread by more than one hospitable prospector settled on a claim miles away from any community, near the Manchurian border.

The gold rush is only one phase, and decidedly a minor phase, in the revival of Soviet Russia's interest in gold, which originated with Joseph Stalin in 1927, and in which the Soviet dictator has taken the keenest personal interest.

Stalin has got hold of the translation of a book called *Sutter's Gold,* which painted a very vivid picture of the California gold rush in 1849. This had suggested to Stalin that gold might play as important a part in the development of Russia's Far East as had California gold in the development of America's Far West.

In the last year or two, some very important new placer districts have been discovered and opened up by prospectors. And I know personally of at least ten large lode mines and several dozen smaller ones which have been fully mapped and only await development.

The Far Eastern gold rush continues. An army of intrepid men and women push ever farther into the unexplored wastes of Eastern Siberia, Yakutia and Kazakstan. Prospectors work in blinding blizzards and tropical heat, and penetrate into districts which man may never have seen before. In Russia, as in other gold-bearing countries, the prospector has been found useful and necessary. As long as this army of prospectors is encouraged and stimulated as it is at present, the Soviet Government doesn't need to worry about locating new gold deposits.—*John D. Littlepage with Demaree Bess*

FINISHING-SCHOOL GIRL

from "Forum"

AMERICAN finishing schools are Victorian survivals of the smuggest sort. They are citadels of snobbery. The training they give is an anachronism—an academic, economic, emotional, and social anachronism. They prepare the girl for a world that has ceased to exist. They might as well teach her to manage a hoop skirt with aplomb and then turn her loose, garbed in slacks.

There are, in all, only twelve or fifteen really fashionable girls' schools in the country, regardless of the haughty advertising in certain smooth-paper magazines. They are located—with the exception of a couple of doubtful ones in the West—chiefly in Connecticut, Maryland, and Virginia. Their tuition fees range from $1800 to $3000 a year. Their courses of study are designed in most cases to take the place of high-school study, and an additional two years are sometimes offered. Only about 400 girls are graduated from them annually.

They flourish not because they have large endowments (the top schools have not a penny) but because they are straight business ventures with something to sell. This something is the one commodity that our public schools cannot offer—exclusiveness.

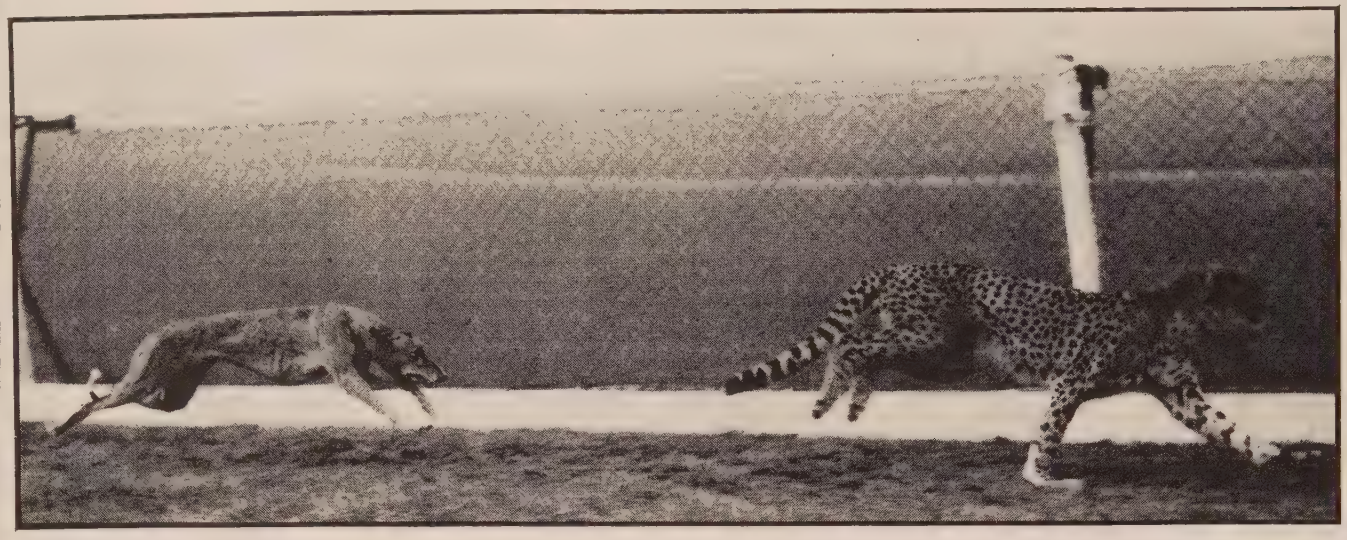
Academically, finishing schools are anachronisms because they no longer finish. Once they completed a girl's training. Today they are, in most cases, only stepping stones to college.

The girls themselves have brought this about. They have insisted on being prepared for college, whether or not they choose to go on. Thus, finishing schools have been forced to compete with plebeian high

THIS WEEK

Red Gold Rush	*Saturday Evening Post*
Finishing-School Girl	*Forum*
Britain Arms at Sea	*Foreign Affairs*
"Yankee Doodle's" Birth	*Des Moines Register*
"Middletown" Talks Back	*The Beacon*
Bigger and Better "Frosh"	*Health*
Elderly Generals	*Poslednie Novosti, Paris*
A Doctor Speaks	*CBS Network*
Migration Mystery	*The Atlantic Monthly*

Photo of the Week



FASTEST ANIMAL that runs (for short distances) is the cheetah which can run 100 yards at a speed of 70 m.p.h. This one romping away so easily from a speedy greyhound was brought to London by Kenneth Gandar Dower, author of *The Spotted Lion.—New York Herald Tribune*

schools in giving college-preparatory work.

Nowadays more than half the graduates of the fashionable school pass these examinations, and over a fourth of them go to college. The thing a girl will *not* get is a realistic preparation for the life she is likely to lead.

Economically, her preparation for living is absurd. Finishing schools must have shut their eyes tight to every grim lesson of the depression. For these schools go blandly on, turning out a product as ignorant as a Jane Austen heroine of how to earn a living, to budget an income, to invest a legacy, or to understand a corporation report.

Less fashionable schools must try to prepare a girl for a variety of careers—teaching, business, the professions, marriage. But finishing schools need to prepare her for only one career. Within seven years after graduation the finishing-school girl is certain to be married. Yet, in spite of this inevitability, the finishing school teaches her little or nothing about the practical side of her future job.

The Connecticut schools are almost unanimous in maintaining an attitude of dark suspicion toward the male sex. At one school it is impossible to obtain the school telephone number in the village or at the local telephone exchange. Another school unbends far enough to give occasional teas, to which boys are invited, where milk is the chief beverage served. A Maryland school with a tuition of $1800 makes no such compromises with Satan. The presence of a young man at the campus is absolutely proscribed at all seasons for all reasons.

The middle-class girl who walks to high school every day with the boy from next door may not be able to nourish a sense of the exclusiveness of her school. And later, when she goes to a coeducational college and works over test tubes with young men and plays with them on tennis courts and flirts with them at dances, she may not be getting ready to make a brilliant marriage. But she is getting ready to make a lasting one.

BRITAIN ARMS AT SEA

from "Foreign Affairs"

SPEAKING at Geneva on September 20, Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, said: "At present the aggregate tonnage of the principal types of warships actually building for the Royal Navy exceeds 450,000. I take no account in this figure of the ships already launched this year, nor of a further 55,000 tons which Parliament has sanctioned and which will shortly be put in hand. The last three naval programs partly completed or in actual execution in the United Kingdom at the present time represent a total expenditure of £130,000,000. Naval personnel is being extended at a rate without precedent in our country in time of peace."

Impressive as these figures are, they do not adequately reveal the magnitude of the effort which Britain is now making to restore and consolidate her sea power. Tables published in the Navy Estimates for 1937 show the following combatant and auxiliary units as under construction during the current fiscal year: 5 battleships, 21 cruisers, 5 aircraft carriers, 49 destroyers, 19 submarines, 3 depot ships, 24 escort, mine-sweeping and patrol vessels, 3 gunboats, 17 motor torpedo boats, and 2 surveying ships—a total of 148 vessels. Nor is this the whole story. A new program is to be introduced to Parliament next March, and while its details are not yet officially revealed, well-informed observers predict three to five battleships, seven cruisers, and a generous quota of destroyers, submarines, and other light tonnage. The personnel of the navy, which has jumped from 98,000 to 112,000 in the last few years, will be further increased to an approximate total of 125,000 officers and men.

What is the purpose of this gigantic scheme of naval rearmament? When Sir Samuel Hoare, former First Lord of the Admiralty, introduced this year's navy budget, he spoke of a "two-hemisphere fleet" as the goal in view. This can only mean that Britain intends to become strong enough to be capable of holding her own simultaneously in European waters and in the Far East. Having regard to the present balance of power in the world, that is a big order. But if the British Commonwealth is to survive it must be fulfilled.—*Hector C. Bywater*

"YANKEE DOODLE'S" BIRTH

from "Des Moines Sunday Register"

WHEN today's Albany-New York highway was an Indian trail claimed by England, coveted by France, and stalked by savages, John Bull sent his British regulars out to the colonies to keep the scalps on his subjects and the French off his territory.

But redcoats and military tactics didn't stop the war-whoops.

The colonials didn't rate too high in appearance. Wearing granddad's three-cornered hat and carrying his old flintlock was funny enough. Add long-tailed, homespun, home-dyed, homemade coats

and the regulars had to coin a name for the effect.

They called the colonial boys Yankees.

One day a young British army surgeon called on a charming Knickerbocker girl. He was irked by her interest in some colonial boy friends in the next garden.

Hoping to divert her attention, legend relates, he made up some silly lines as he sat kicking his heels against the Dutch well curb in her garden.

To amuse her he assembled a tune for his rhyme from fragments he remembered. There was a bit of a Dutch harvest song, a strain from an English folk air, a snatch of a Spanish sword dance.

That night the British army doctor sang his ditty to his messmates. It made a hit! It was, they shouted, "a capital joke on the Yankees!"

But the Yankees liked it too! Soon the ditty fifed, sang and whistled its way through every Middlesex village and farm.

For years the little tune was neutral. It drilled with the regulars and marched out of step with the long-tailed coats.

After those six years of fighting, when the British finally recognized the Declaration of Independence, the colonials wished them Godspeed to the snappy rhythm of the ditty.

In the flag-flapping years that followed, the silly little song kept company with all the bigwig orators.

And that's how "Yankee Doodle" became habit-forming.—*Jean Buchan*

"MIDDLETOWN" TALKS BACK

from "The Beacon"

EVERY time the average Middletowner sees pad and pencil in the hands of earnest-eyed persons of schoolteacherish demeanor he shies and makes for the nearest exit. Housewives divide their guesses as to the nature of the man at the door between "it's another peddler," and "it's another Lynd." Children in school take on all the psychotic qualities of bomb-throwers at the mere mention of a questionnaire.

Indeed, it must be assumed that Middletown is no longer a significant subject for scientific investigation. Like the man who has taken too many intelligence tests, men, women, and children in this Indiana town are sociology-conscious. They seem to be able to give you the right answers out of the most authoritative textbooks.

If, because of its peculiarly typical economic, political, and cultural setup, Middletown seems yet to offer important data to the investigator, the technique of interviewing had better be resolutely rejected. The answers received will sound like the examination paper of a graduate student in the social sciences at the University of Chicago. What is wanted is the record of one who has spent his life in a typical American city.

I was too young to perceive the significance of Robert and Helen Lynd's first visit to Middletown. A sophomore in the Central high school, I was, with many others, merely irritated by the questionnaires we were expected accurately to reply to. It seemed to be nobody's business how many times a week I took a bath or whether or not I "necked." But by the time the book was published, I began to see some point to it all. I was a sophomore in the Teachers' College that Middletown now boasts of with so much anxious enthusiasm. I had become a "social science major" and was very serious about it all.

The high-school boy whose only medium of expression was the wisecrack had been replaced by the earnest undergraduate who wanted to find out something about the world he lived in. I had read Sinclair Lewis' *Main Street* and *Babbitt*. I was scornful of the ignorant, prejudiced, self-satisfied vulgarians who were the successful citizens of my town. I despised them and said so freely. Narrowly I saw the whole problem as concerned with manners and cultural attitudes. These people hadn't read the right books, and they paid too much attention to money.

From Lewis I somehow got the idea that all these people were this way out of pure perverseness. They had to be ridiculed out of their various idiocies in the Mencken manner. You had to make fun of their grammar, their preachers, their lodges, their axioms, their conversational boners. In short, I was a snob, just as Lewis and Mencken and all their followers were snobs. I was battering away at effects and paying no attention to causes.

But then the Lynds's first book came along. Reading it at first with a hearty thoroughness in the hope of getting more ammunition for my snobbish social gun, I was stopped in the midst of it by the astonishing realization that I was wrong, that Lewis and Mencken, in whom I had had so much confidence, had misled me. To be sure, what they had pointed out and what I had seen were true enough.

But now I saw it differently. These were human beings, not heroes. These men and women were acting in the only way it seemed possible to act. They did not consciously choose these evil ways. They *consciously* chose nothing. They were impelled by the nature of the times in which they lived. So I saw how absurb it was to rail at Middletowners as if they were somehow isolated evil geniuses. Middletown had become America. If all this I hated was to be fought, it was in the whole nation, and not merely in this miserable town.

Middletown was everywhere. I found it in Baltimore and New York and Cleveland and Chicago. And I knew without going there that I should find it in Rapallo with Pound, in London with Eliot, and in Iceland with Auden and MacNeice. —*C. A. Millspaugh*

BIGGER AND BETTER "FROSH"

from "Health"

COLLEGE freshmen are taller, heavier, and younger than they were twenty years ago. Several years ago Harvard University discovered that its students were growing taller at the rate of one inch every thirty-two years. But, it was argued, Harvard students represent a privileged class. What about middle-class Americans?

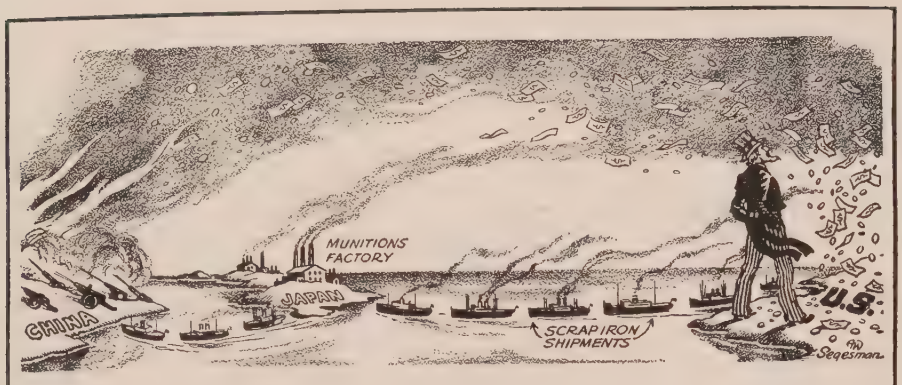
The University of Cincinnati undertook to find out. Its students come from middle-class homes, very few are specially privileged, and many are underprivileged and entirely self-supporting. The research proved that men freshmen who entered this university for the 1935-36 term were a full 1.78 inches taller than those entering in 1916. Freshmen women entering in 1935-36 were 0.79 inch taller, on the average, than those admitted twenty years earlier.

Weight has increased gradually during that period in all students, although the

Cartoon of the Week

AT HOME, AMERICAN BIG BUSINESS IS FAIR GAME IN ANY SEASON-
ONE WORD AN' I'LL BOP YUH - 'OH' Y WON'T TALK, EH
LOCAL POLITICS
CHISELER! TAX EVADER! FORK OVER!
TAX COLLECTOR
HOG! ECONOMIC ROYALIST! TRAITOR!
C'MON! GET OFF O'YOUR PROPERTY!
STATE TROOPS
NATIONAL POLITICS
BUT LET IT MOVE TO CHINA, AND IT BECOMES "AMERICAN NATIONALS" -AND AMERICAN LIVES AND TAX MONEY ARE DRAFTED TO PROTECT IT!
BLOW HARD
FOREIGN SERVICE
U.S. BOYS
IF ANYONE THREATENS HIS PROPERTY, DEFEND IT WITH YOUR LIFE
THE DIPLOMATS
REG MANNING

Distance lends charm.—*The Hartford Courant*



Those trade winds.—*Seattle Star*

increase has been greater for men than for women.

In 1916 the average male student entered this university at the age of 19.45 years. In 1935-36 the average age for entering students was 18.83 for men and 18.60 for women.

"The probable causes of the increase in stature and weight of young people are better nutrition in infancy and childhood, less communicable disease, higher standards of living, and a higher degree of health intelligence among people in general," comments Dr. Chenoweth of the University of Cincinnati.

Those who have contributed most to this improved state, in Dr. Chenoweth's opinion, are doctors (particularly child specialists), nutritionists, public health workers, and educators.

ELDERLY GENERALS

from "Poslednie Novosti," Paris

THE recent "purge" in the British high command, in which a number of elderly generals were retired and replaced by younger men, was preceded by a lively discussion in the British military press. Among others, General J. F. C. Fuller took part. That well known exponent of mechanized warfare proved, with figures in hand, that in the past two thousand years of more or less authentic military history the age of army commanders was distributed as follows: 74 per cent were younger than forty-five; 22 per cent were from forty-five to sixty; and only 4 per cent were older than sixty.

This apparently created a strong impression. It was discovered that the majority of British army commanders were then over sixty. In fact, only three were below that age.

The statistical method, however, is always controversial. According to statistics, it is also true that Bluecher, who completed Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo, was then seventy-two years old. Suvarov, the Russian military leader, beat some of the best generals of the French Revolution when seventy. The Austrian Field Marshal Radetzky won victory after victory in Italy at eighty-two. Finally, the elder Moltke conducted the whole brilliant campaign of the Franco-Prussian War when past seventy.

Turning to the leaders of the World War, we find that they were generals of respectable age. Foch smashed the German army at the age of sixty-six. Joffre was sixty-two at the Marne. Hindenburg was sixty-seven at the beginning of the World War, while General Alexieff, who directed all the Russian armies, was over sixty.

To prove his thesis, General Fuller has to include commanders from ancient military history and the Middle Ages, when kings led armies in person. The inclusion of commanders like these who owe their rank to their birth, naturally pulls down the average age of army chiefs. At present, both technical knowledge and solid experience are required from generals, and the latter can be acquired only with age.

The French, who put the age of retirement very high, are guided in their estimate of generals not so much by their age as by their achievements, regardless of years. Thus the opinion of seventy-eight-year-old Marshal Petain is respectfully heard in military councils. And when Abd-el-Krim, the Moroccan chieftain, had to be subdued, the difficult task was entrusted to the same elderly Petain, who brought it to a swift, successful conclusion.

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

broadcast over CBS Network

THE question of the relationship between the doctor and the community has been very much before the public in America and England during these last few months. Politicians—or should I say statesmen, for here they are really being wise?—are translating Emerson's old adage into a campaign for national fitness. Since we can't be wealthy, they say, at least we can be healthy.

I am fairly familiar with the conditions of medical practice in England, and although I have been only six weeks in America, I have traveled about 6000 miles. I am convinced that each country can learn something from the other about medical practice.

When a man falls ill in an English town, his general practitioner treats him, and if he is not successful after a few weeks, he calls in a specialist from a neighboring city. In an American community, we should probably find that nine or ten doctors are not working independently. They have grouped themselves into a coöperative unit in which each deals with a special branch of medicine. A patient coming to such a group is immediately in the hands of an expert qualified to deal with his particular case.

Don't imagine for a moment that I am attacking the general practitioner—a man I admire intensely. Most general practitioners complain that their life is a dog's life. Group medicine would change that: and give the patient a better deal as well.

In America I have been impressed by the fact that rich and poor are well taken care of when they fall sick, but that for the in-between section, the ordinary working people, illness is a grave and terrifying problem. I wish I had time to tell you all the human stories I have heard that would bring this home to you.

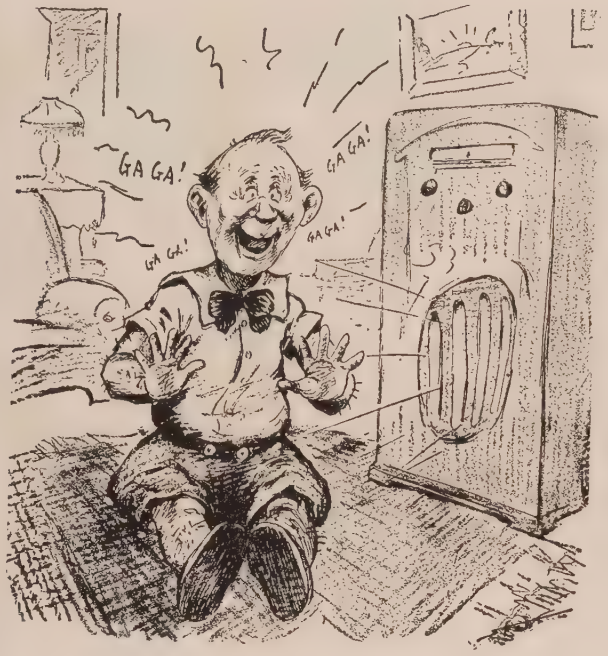
In England our working men and women are protected against such disastrous contingencies. By the contribution of a small weekly sum, the worker receives medical care and attention without any further payment whatsoever. He has free choice of doctor, free medicine, etc.

Not only is this system advantageous to the patients, but the doctors find it satisfactory and profitable. It isn't a perfect system, but now that I have seen something of the medical setup on this side of the Atlantic, I feel increasingly proud of our health insurance scheme.

America has realized and is deeply concerned by this gap in her medical services, and, by way of filling it, a movement has been set on foot toward what

FOR HEALTH INSURANCE: A. J. Cronin, author and doctor, recommends British system of health control for America

HACKER



We, the Public, as too many radio comedians think we are.—*World-Herald, Omaha*

is termed the socialization of American medicine. For the most part, American doctors are determinedly opposed to this drive for socialized medicine, and I must say that I am with them all the way. State medicine, in my opinion, spells disaster for doctor and patient alike. You cannot pipe out medicine to the community as they do the steam heat in New York City.

If the state wants to operate in the field of medicine, let me suggest an outlet for its enthusiasm. To my mind, nothing has been more pernicious than the enormous growth in recent times of the bogus remedy and its false advertisement. I have no quarrel with legitimate advertising. But, every year, the public is hocused out of millions of dollars or pounds by lying promises, ballyhooing worthless medicines.

I wonder if the answer to America's problem does not lie in the establishment of some health insurance scheme comparable to our own, under the control of a central medical board.

I know the futility of speaking grandiosely of sweeping reforms, of demanding the demolition of our present structure and the erection of a new one overnight. I distrust the man with the pet scheme, the panacea.

We must be grateful for small, localized improvements in our medical system, improvements effected possibly without the consciousness of their ultimate objective.—*A. J. Cronin*

MIGRATION MYSTERY

from "The Atlantic Monthly"

An old mystery begins to take on a new interest; and one of its more recent illustrations particularly concerns inquirers on the two sides of the Atlantic.

There appeared a year or two ago on the coast of Wales and South Britain an unheard-of number of broad-winged visitors from America, though none was seen in France or Spain. They were monarch, or milkweed, butterflies, whose gorgeous wings have a power of flight that may compare with that of birds. Some of the greatest authorities believe that they flew the Atlantic on their own wings, aided only by the wings of the wind.

The greatest and most regular voyager of all, this butterfly flies habitually north and south. Its eccentric appearance in Britain seems to be an accident due perhaps to the disturbance of a gale. When carried out to sea by a strong westerly wind, the butterfly must needs fly on.

There are sound economic and social reasons for the journeys of birds. For the long journeys of the butterflies only mysterious reasons can be involved. Some of them seem, if one may say so, to be aggressively purposeless. For example, there is a glorious butterfly, common in England, called the red admiral. It is regarded by most people who have not studied its ways as properly a British resident.

The red admiral would vanish totally from Britain if it were not for a regular annual immigration from overseas. This journey, so it seems, has nothing whatever to do with that strangest of all motives in all types of living things, the continuation of the race. None of these immigrants or their children is able to bridge the winter interval between one year and the next. The family of every immigrant is doomed to extinction after one generation in the new place of abode. The continuity of the race is actually handicapped by the migrating instinct.

So large and susceptible are their wings that their habitual flight even on the calmest day is a chassé, a wavering course up and down and sideways, as if the sail were too strong for the rudder. How could such light, ethereal fliers set forth on a direct and purposeful flight in defiance of the currents of the air? Their flight is now known to be much more under control than once seemed likely. Flocks of butterflies have been seen tacking their way against strong winds over the sea as both immigrants and emigrants.

What these movements mean we do not know.—*Sir W. Beach Thomas.*

To children in **San Diego,** *winter is just a myth . . .* a season when trees are bare and flowers do not bloom, is a thing hard for them to imagine.

They even expect rain to come at night (and mostly it does) so they can play outdoors all day long.

Poor Dears, they never get weather-conscious . . . not even in summer when cool sea breezes keep it pleasant *as usual.* Maybe you'd like this place, too.

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EXCLUSIVE LITERARY DIGEST PHOTOS BY MAXWELL FREDERIC COPLAN

"IT'S ABOUT TIME you took me out of here, Bergen!" Charlie usually complains as he's taken out of his case

"EASY THERE, Bergen, don't muss my hair! Will I slay them in this shirt or will I slay them?"

The People's Choice

CHARLIE MCCARTHY *is conceded to be the radio sensation of 1937. His creator, Edgar Bergen, is a ventriloquist with a degree from Northwestern University. With his impudent dummy, Charlie, he had toured this country and Europe in vaudeville with only moderate success until he broke into radio via a night club.*

Believing that the phenomenon of a wooden dummy becoming a real personality and a household word to the public is striking enough to warrant attention, the LITERARY DIGEST *asked several persons, notable in various fields, for comment. This is the result, including excerpts from two newspaper articles:*

MARK SULLIVAN: I think I know one reason for Charlie's popularity. He says what he thinks. He does not conduct any referenda to find out what he ought to say. He does not keep his ear to the ground. Somehow we feel that Charlie, being made of wood, is free from inhibitions, from the considerations of expediency or policy or group allegiance which color the remarks of many flesh-and-blood oracles and leaders. Some day some smart flesh-and-blood person is going to adopt Charlie's technique of candor and directness—and if he has the right sort of personality, the people will elect him President.

VICTOR MOORE: Once, twice, or several times in a generation a national phenomenon arises which captures the public fancy, dominates the columns of newspapers, the magazines, and conversations in the home. I can remember when it was Halley's Comet; later it was parrot fever, the Charleston, mah-jongg, Lindbergh, and more recently monopoly and handies. This year it is Charlie McCarthy. I wish that it were Victor Moore instead of a brilliant ventriloquist's dummy.

NELSON EDDY: Don't let the little mutt fool you. Bergen is the real man. Everybody is acclaiming Charlie McCarthy the man of the year, carried away by the little fellow's artistry. But they are forgetting Bergen. It is he, not Charlie, who is one of the world's finest showmen. He has a wonderful personality, a smoothness and a mildness that no other showman has. He is really fine goods. He has a mechanical mind and so have I. I am more amazed in how he manipulates the little guy with his hands than I am in watching Charlie perform. It is Bergen who infuses life and personality into Charlie.

DON AMECHE: Despite popular conception, talking to Charlie McCarthy is not like talking to yourself. I always have the feeling that he is a definite living personality. Every once in a while during a performance I come to with a jolt and realize that he is, after all, an inanimate dummy. It is hard to describe my feelings at such times, but it is nothing short of eerie.

THEODORE DREISER: Fairest Charlie, my proposition is that Mr. Bergen go into business and manufacture duplicates of you to sell at a small price so that all of us who have to say what we don't mean, and think what we do, could re-

verse that. Come down and express my real views for me—said by me, they only bring the ruccus cart and the police.

W. C. Fields: In the creation of Charlie McCarthy, Edgar Bergen made a very noble and charitable gesture. I understand that there is a famine among the white ants of Brazil, and what a banquet Charlie would be!

Carole Lombard: Charlie McCarthy is a miracle of modern entertainment. People do not think of him as a ventriloquist's dummy, but as a living personality. And this applies even when Charlie is in a crowd. I think that it is a great tribute to Edgar Bergen that he has been able to endow a hunk of pine with a personality all its own, and make that hunk of pine into one of the big stars of today.

A. A. Brill: From what I have heard, directly and indirectly, Charlie McCarthy is so much of an attraction "because he is witty and outspoken, and because after all he is only a dummy." In other words, Charlie McCarthy excites our wonder and admiration because he is a dummy, and yet he is so witty that he can hold his own with such well known stars as W. C. Fields, Bea Lillie, etc.

Wonder, surprise and admiration are episodic phenomena, because even the average person experiences them only once in a while. In the case of Charlie McCarthy the audience is impressed by the unnatural and unexpected qualities of the situation—situations which as a rule frighten us, especially when we are still young and credulous. From time immemorial the ventriloquist, whether he was a medicine man among savages or a modern actor with a dummy on his lap, always excited our admiration. The average person cannot throw his voice into another person or object, or speak at a distance. In spite of the fact that the radio audience knows well that Charlie McCarthy is only a dummy, and that it is the voice of Mr. Bergen, the ventriloquist, they forget that and react to Charlie's utterances as if they emanated from an animate object, or rather as if they came from the funny, child-oldish being. They laugh as if they were confronted with the proverbial *enfant terrible,* who naïvely betrays the family secrets to the distinguished guests.

Behind it all is Mr. Bergen, the ventriloquist, the gifted wag who uses Charlie as a façade to express contempt, aggression, and sexual allusions in a witty way. The radio audiences, who are there because they are sadly in need of such outlets, are put back by Charlie McCarthy into that early state of childhood when they too were permitted to think and talk as they pleased, regardless of inhibitions exerted by parents and society.

Dorothy Lamour: Of course I love Charlie. I work with him and he is my boy friend. Strangely, I never think of him as a doll animated with human hands. I always speak of him by name. And, incidentally, I work him. He is the only man I know that I can make say exactly what I want him to say.

Jack Oakie: If I made some of the cracks Charlie McCarthy gets away with, I would get my face slapped a baby pink; the Will Hays office would scream itself hoarse, and RKO would cancel my contract. Imagine a little fugitive from a woodpile sitting on a guy's lap cracking wise and drawing down more dough than the President of the United States.

Meyer Berger, in New York *Times Magazine*: There is a fair chance that the braggart McCarthy may attain immortality for his sheer impudence.

Psychologists say that Charlie McCarthy differs from other dummies because he has definite spiritual qualities. His throaty, almost lecherous chuckle is a haunting thing. He says things that a human actor would never dare to say in public, and gets away with them. It doesn't matter whom he's talking to. . . . A little vulgarian, a brassy, blustering, sniggering blockhead. But we wouldn't harm a splinter in his hollow head.

Claude Rains: It was my good fortune to meet Charlie McCarthy in New York six months ago, when we appeared together on a Rudy Vallee broadcast. Mr. Vallee introduced us. I consider this fellow McCarthy a most delightful personality, but he must be in a talkative mood to be appreciated.

Editorial in New York *Times*: Charlie McCarthy, the overbred brat of the radio, is so insufferably satisfied with himself that it is risky to praise him in public. But Charlie has become the most real personality on the comic air waves.

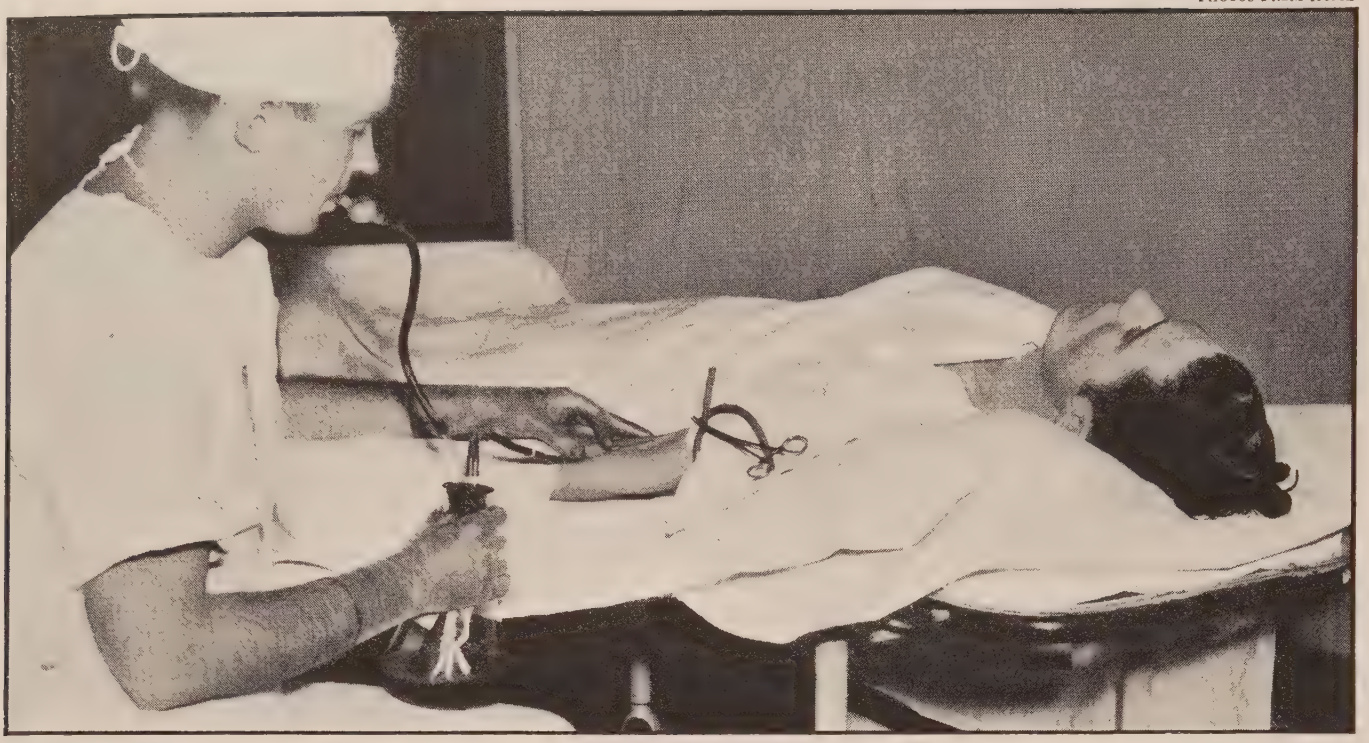
The impression of reality comes chiefly from his voice, which has abundant range and variety. Basically it is arid. Although Charlie is apparently still in his teens, his little voice is aweary of the world. It has the infernal, fatigued assurance of a lad who has been too much in the company of his elders; it is suave, condescending and impertinently familiar. . . . Charlie has a bland tone for throwing an adversary off the track. When he feels that he is stumbling into an awkward situation his voice can make a disarming plea for sympathy; it drops away into a choking tone of self-pity, impossible to believe or to resist. When he is in a wooing mood beyond his years his voice fairly coos with insincere rapture.

Henry Goddard Leach: Charlie McCarthy is a whimsically unique and very definite personality. That is the reason I find him irresistible.

"IT'S HIS WRITING ability and my personality. What would Bergen be without me?" Charlie is conceited because he gets more fan mail than Bergen

"SURE, I CAN READ without looking. I can talk Swedish, too. I bane good"

PHOTOS FROM ACME

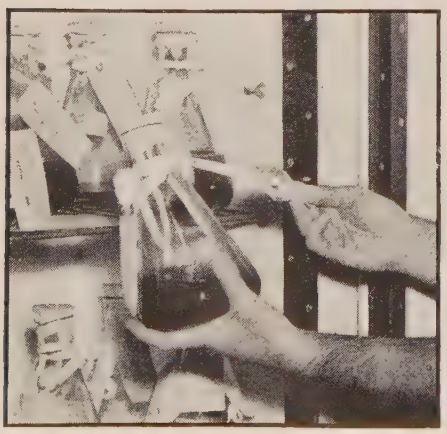


DEPOSITORS are professionals who are paid $25 a pint for their blood. Dr. Charles Cameron is here taking blood from the arm of a donor

Blood Bank

A new method of preserving human blood is being used at the General Hospital in Philadelphia, where a white-walled vault contains supplies of blood of all types. Kept at an even temperature, blood now may be stored from four to six weeks

SODIUM CITRATE keeps the blood from clotting. A dash is put in the bottle before filling and sealing



DIVIDENDS of life-giving blood are paid in the photograph above, which shows the patient being given a transfusion. At the left is the vault where stored blood is kept at a temperature of from 38 to 42 degrees, in accordance with the method of blood preservation recently developed by Russian scientists. Dr. Cameron checks a specimen to determine its age and type

Topics in the News

Business . Science . Religion . Sports . Music

BUSINESS: Will 1938 be a good year, or a bad one?

AVIDLY have readers scanned the financial pages in recent weeks for developments in the business recession. Last week these pages held greater attraction, for top-notch business men, performing their yearly writing stint, loosed a barrage of forecasts for 1938.

"We are in a recession in fact—important in both scope and magnitude," declared Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., chairman of General Motors Corporation. "The situation may well develop into a depression serious more from the standpoint of duration than amplitude.

"There is no adequate justification for the situation. While certain economic policies are operating toward unbalancing the national economy, demanding an accounting sooner or later, the process has not continued long enough to offset the normal forces of recovery. Why has it happened? Simply because of fear as to the future of American enterprise and the rules upon which it is to be conducted.

"There is one remedy, and only one. Confidence must be reëstablished by demonstrated fact and understanding as to objectives and methods."

Similarly, to Gerard Swope, president of General Electric Company, "the main disturbance is due to lack of confidence on the part of business and lack of faith in the future. . . . If a satisfactory tax solution is reached and the country is placed on a basis of limiting expenditures to income, with the absence of retaliation or reprisal on the part of either business or government, there is no reason why business should not resume the function it has played so well in the past . . . the enjoyment of more goods by more people at less cost."

"The most encouraging factor for the development of sound prosperity in 1938 is the sincere effort that business and government are making to coöperate with each other," declared Thomas J. Watson, president of the International Business Machines Corporation and president of the International Chamber of Commerce. "With a continuation of this coöperation, we need have no fears as to the prosperity of all our people. Development of better trade relations with other countries is also important."

To Colby M. Chester, chairman of General Foods Corporation and of the National Association of Manufacturers, "the disposition of government and labor to appreciate that continued production, and production only, determines our real income is one of the most cheerful developments. This seems to promise tax revisions and temperateness in demands from labor, which should prove helpful to manufacturing, the largest source of national income."

J. J. Pelley, head of the Association of American Railroads, declared: "The beginning of 1938 finds the railroads in a critical financial condition. The high hopes with which they entered 1937 were not borne out in the last half of that year. The combination of reduced tonnage and declining average revenue, with rising prices of the things they have to buy, higher wages and mounting taxes, created a situation of grave concern not only to railroad management but to the public, which has a direct interest in railroad service and solvency.

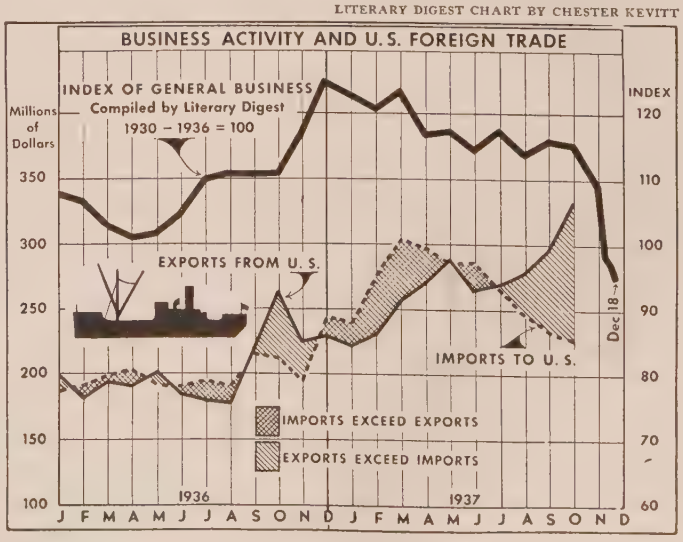
"There are hopeful elements, however. The physical condition of the railroads is good; their service is better than it has ever been before. There is a growing public appreciation of their progress and achievements, and realization of the nature of their problems."

Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, vice-president of the Cleveland Trust Company, said: "The course of business in 1938 depends on decisions that will be made in Washington, and on policies that will be adopted there. We have all the economic requisites for prosperity. We have the men, money, materials and markets. Our difficulties are political, not economic. We need coöperation between government and business.

"It seems probable that the bottom of the present slump in industrial production will be reached in the first half of this year, for operations have been curtailed so rapidly that in many lines we are already producing less than we are consuming. The recovery from that low point is bound to be much slower than the descent. . . . Wholesale prices will probably be lower than in 1937. . . . Average stock prices will probably be lower than during 1937 or 1936, and not far from average

	1937			1936
	Dec. 18	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Dec. 19
STOCK SALES	66	71	73	126
BOND SALES	64	69	68	120
BANK DEBITS—N. Y. CITY	87	85	87	104
DEPOSIT CIRCULATION—N. Y. CITY	110	103	102	105
BANK DEBITS OUTSIDE N. Y. CITY	104	105	104	122
FREIGHT CARLOADINGS	99	99	100	119
BITUMINOUS COAL PRODUCTION	—	—	102	133
CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION	139	139	137	126
AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION	82	85	86	118
ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTION	123	124	124	125
COTTON FORWARDINGS	90	96	105	152
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS	105	123	124	150
STEEL PRODUCTION	51	54	57	148
INDEX OF GENERAL BUSINESS	**95**	**97**	**98**	**125**

LITERARY DIGEST CHART BY CHESTER KEVITT


BUSINESS ACTIVITY AND U.S. FOREIGN TRADE
INDEX OF GENERAL BUSINESS
Compiled by Literary Digest
1930 – 1936 = 100
Millions of Dollars
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EXPORTS FROM U.S.
IMPORTS TO U.S.
Dec 18
IMPORTS EXCEED EXPORTS
EXPORTS EXCEED IMPORTS
1936
1937
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D

WE BUY LESS ABROAD, since our new depression began last March; but our exports were still rising when the last monthly figures (for October) were compiled by the government

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levels of 1935 and 1934. Automobile production will surely be less.

"Among other important series which will probably be lower in 1938 are the production of coal and iron and steel and cement and freight carloadings and the value of department store sales. Among series which will probably be higher are petroleum refining, unemployment, and business failures. Among those likely to be little changed are electric power and tobacco products."

SCIENCE: Typical community wins an influenza-survey

DO PETS and other domestic animals carry influenza? How does an influenza epidemic start? Some persons are susceptible, others are not. Why? What general activities render a somewhat isolated community liable to a flare-up of influenza?

To clear up these and related enigmas, 1000 residents of Yorktown Heights, Shrub Oak, Jefferson Valley, and still smaller hamlets in an eight-square-mile area, are willing to turn themselves into guinea pigs for their county department of health and the Rockefeller Foundation. Aware that never has there been just such a study, aware that their zestful coöperation ought to mean the saving of countless lives in this and future generations, citizens of these hill-cradled hamlets are excited over the influx of Foundation experts, and proudly thrilled over their roles.

Careful investigation convinced the Rockefeller Foundation that this area—Yorktown township—represents a typical American community, not too isolated from large cities. The Westchester County Department of Health, approached by the Foundation, voted to coöperate.

To what extent are Westchester citizens to be guinea pigs? "No medical treatment will be attempted, this activity remaining in the hands of local physicians, with whom a cordial understanding already has been established," states Dr. Matthias Nicoll, Jr., county health commissioner. "Activities will consist of a medical census, followed by detailed clinical and laboratory investigation of all cases of respiratory disease."

History cards are being prepared for the 1000 residents. A house-to-house canvass will collect details of past and present health, estimated susceptibility to influenza, number of attacks, possible mode of infection, including close contact with domestic animals. No person is to be compelled to answer questions, or to give blood samples—which are to be requested, to determine degree of immunity, and capacity to infect the ferret, the animal most readily used for laboratory experiments on influenza. Stricken individuals can gargle with salt water, if they so choose, and allow the mixture to be transported to New York for examination in Foundation laboratories.

The microbes causing influenza are already known, their identity having been determined as the result of research upon the New York City epidemic of late 1936. Influenza germs are of various strains, but all are protein molecules. These are huge for molecules, yet too tiny to be seen through the most powerful lenses. But the last Rockefeller Foundation annual report states that much remains to be discovered concerning the differences between the various strains, such as "Puerto Rico 8," "Philadelphia," and "swine virus." And little is known about human resistance, the most important aspect of influenza control.

"The question of the role of secondary bacterial invaders in influenza still remains important, for it is possible that the severity of the 1918-19 pandemic was related in part, at least, to superimposed infection by pathogenic bacteria," the report continues.

Such problems interest the Rockefeller experts. Development of vaccines to provide immunity to the disease, and knowledge of how to combat the attacks of bacteria which prey upon persons first made ill by influenza germs, are hoped-for outcomes of the Yorktown study.

Pets probably do not carry influenza. Most authorities agree that domestic animals should not be suspected. Almost certainly, the sole mode of transmission is by "droplet infection"—breathing in germ-laden droplets of moisture from the respiratory systems of infected human beings. There are other opinions, however.

How to make tumors

A GROWTH-PROMOTING substance of dreadful potency has been reported by Dr. Leonard G. Rowntree, director of the Philadelphia Institute of Medical Research. It is obtained by crushing wheat embryos and mixing the crushed material with ether, whereupon the powerful stimulant goes into solution in the ether.

Such extract, fed to albino rats, causes wild growth of tissues of the digestive tract—so that tumors, always fatal, take rise. Dr. Rowntree adds: "These tumors are transplantable in practically 100 per cent

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of the cases. . . . The new tumor-producing substance is apparently more active than any other known cancer-causing agent, in that it produces tumors more quickly. Because this is the first time that feeding a plant product has resulted in tumor formation, we are attempting to explore thoroughly the possibilities of the relation of vegetable embryos to tumor production." Other cancer-causing compounds have been long studied, mostly derivatives of coal tar. Such compounds, by causing cancer in animals, help scientists learn the background of human cancer.

RELIGION: Our religious editor goes to the theater

SAVE FOR such spectacles as *The Miracle, The Passion Play, The Eternal Road,* Broadway producers have for years shied away from religion as theater material. The reason has been twofold: religious themes are almost certain to offend church and public alike, and they are difficult to adapt to entertainment.

First notable break in this traditional bias was John G. Underhill's translation of G. Martinez Sierra's convent drama, *The Cradle Song,* which got over nicely in 1927. Then Sierra's *The Kingdom of God* was put on in 1928. The classic *The Green Pastures* came two years later. It was not until four years afterward that Broadway tackled *The First Legion,* set in a Jesuit monastery. In 1935 Mr. Underhill produced *Field of Ermine,* a short-lived venture dealing with the Immaculate Conception. The next year the courageous WPA theater unit brought out T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral.*

Early last year religious-theme plays began making the rounds of producers, and now it is apparent that Broadway is in for a cycle of church dramas.

Out of about 30-odd plays on the boards there were:

Susan and God, a satire on the Oxford movement.

Father Malachy's Miracle, a criticism of Roman Catholic practices in terms of fantastic comedy.

Many Mansions, a melodramatic indictment of hypocrisy in the Protestant Church.

Barchester Towers, a portrayal of the pettiness of an English cathedral town.

Shadow and Substance (due in January), dealing with the struggle of religious spirit against church organization.

The Bridal Crown (due in January), August Strindberg's drama of religious symbolism and faith.

This flood of religious-theme shows stirred profound reaction among church officials, lay leaders, religious editors, and ministers of the gospel. Conservatives and liberals broke into their familiar groups. On the whole, tolerance prevailed.

Of *Many Mansions,* reputedly portraying the Protestant Episcopal communion, *The Churchman,* independent journal of the Episcopal church, said: "It deserves the support of all church people—but they must be stanch enough to endure a graphic dramatic presentation of just what they and other people have done and are doing to the religion of Jesus Christ. No clergyman who has ever tried to preach and live that religion without giving in to the devastating compromises which every church organization demands will dare to say the play is untrue to life."

FATHER MALACHY, played by Al Shean of vaudeville fame (left), is the dominant character in one of six plays currently on the stage dealing with religion

Against *Father Malachy's Miracle* Catholic church resentment arose, then somewhat cooled, for there was no denying that, despite critical aspects, the play had genuine propaganda value. The Catholic Theater Movement of the New York archdiocese surprisingly did not put it in Class C as "wholly objectionable." It rated Class B, "objectionable in part." Yet the powerful Catholic weekly *America* said: "It is our opinion that the play has a sound spiritual thesis, that it does not offend either moral or theological senses. The B rating means that the play is objectionable in some detail; being a satire, this play may be judged as verging on irreverence, objectively judged."

Kicked about the producers' offices, *Father Malachy's Miracle* eventually fell into the hands of Delos Chappell. As much as he liked it, he shared others' doubts. During production he was on the verge of giving up when the cast pleaded with him to go on. Critics raved over Al Shean, a Jew, of the famed vaudeville Gallagher and Shean team, who, as the kindly little Benedictine monk, "moves" an Edinburgh dance hall abutting his church to a rock on the coast to prove to an agnostic Anglican clergyman that the world needs faith in Christ and his work. The audience forgot the dozens of little slights on church symbolism.

For the Catholic Theater Movement, *Many Mansions* was a Class A—"generally unobjectionable"—play. Borrowing its name from the 14th chapter of St. John, *Many Mansions* is the work of two Jews, Jules Eckert Goodman and his son, Eckert Goodman. The theme concerns a young pastor who tries to live up to the ministry's highest ideals and fails. Before he is unfrocked for protecting a woman taken in adultery, he attacks the church for its smugness, its indifference to youth's problems, its obeisance to the rich. Goodman *fils* got the idea for the play while at Harvard, when he saw a questionnaire sent to divinity students there.

Susan and God, by Rachel Crothers, is probably the best of the lot in dramatic quality. Catholic arbiters ranked it in Class A. Oxford Groupers have criticized it as depicting possible misadaptations of the Buchman principles. But *The Churchman* retorts: "One cannot help wondering if they wholeheartedly join in the appreciative laughter which rocks the house again and again from the lines and business of the play. A sense of humor is a saving grace in converts." Susan, played by the exquisite Gertrude Lawrence, says after her attempts to diffuse God in her parlor circles: "I'm almost sorry I found God." Some critics found the play concerned Susan more than God.

"It was as I was walking out of the theater where Gertrude Lawrence portrays so brilliantly the rich woman who toys with divinity in *Susan and God,*" writes George E. Sokolsky in the New York *Herald Tribune,* "that it came to me that we suffer these days from too much certainty as to the rights and wrongs of things."

Such is the profound type of comment which this and the other plays have stim-

INTERNATIONAL

ROUND AND ROUND for six days, traveling perhaps 2400 miles, or more than the distance between Chicago and San Francisco, yet never 100 yards from the same spot

ulated in press, pulpit, and public forum. They have started people talking about the church. Supporters say that they have had an important moral and spiritual influence on the lives of the audiences.

SPORTS: Six-day bicycle racing, with a million-dollar "take"

AROUND and around the little wheels go in the six-day riders' circuit of the country. The bicyclers begin another whirl at San Francisco on January 9. After a 2400-mile jaunt on the oval track there, they will move on to the next city, to the next 2400 miles.

More than a million people, in a dozen cities from coast to coast, pay more than $1,000,000 annually to see a dozen or more tense figures, in multicolored sweaters, lean over the handle bars of their bicycles and pedal madly around the pine-wood oval in an effort to keep one from stealing a lap on the others. Since the first race in England in 1875, the sport has been mounting in popularity until it has become a major event in the United States, Canada, and most of Europe.

The first race in this country took place in 1876 at Minneapolis. Today, practically every major city puts on the event once a year, many of them twice. Among the latter are Montreal, Chicago, Buffalo, and New York City—which last month witnessed its sixty-third race. Its first was held at the old Madison Square Garden in 1891, when the riders perched on high wheels. There was no such thing, then, as a two-man team. Each rider rested only when it was humanly impossible to go on. In 1899, a legislative act was passed to keep any competitor from riding more than 12 hours a day.

The money the riders earn depends on their records. "Torchy" Peden, teamed with his young brother, Doug, averages $10,000 a year. Franco Georgetti, an immortal of the sport, earned $35,000 a year for five years. These are top-flight men, but rarely does an important rider make less than $5000 a year.

Fifty leading riders take part in about a dozen races from October to May. After the grind of each race they rest a week. Teammates, paired off anew by the promoter for each race, do not always agree. In some cases they scarcely speak to each other for the six days. The promoter, however, may keep a great team intact. The Germans, Kilian and Vopel, have won six successive races together. Similar pairs are Ignat and Diot—the French "Red Devil" team, "Torchy" and Doug Peden, Letourner and Debaets, and Walthour and Crossley.

Most riders do nothing for a living but ride. A few have other vocations—operating bicycle shops, working as milkmen or in breweries. After six months of riding, bicyclers must take time out to recoup their physical resources. And they train for their races by riding bicycles.

They break into big time by pedaling until they have perfected themselves. Entering small races, they keep going until they are spotted by a big promoter. They are on top as long as their speed and stamina hold up. But, as one oldster put it, "speed and stamina don't mean a thing if a rider hasn't got the guts to go in there and stay in the jams."

The age span is from 20 to 40—with exceptions. Reggie MacNamara, greatest rider of all, did not retire until he was 53. Freddie Spencer, a front-rank rider, who had taken to the bicycle because he was an anemic child, was recently told that he was done at 34. At one time he made $15,000 a year on the oval track.

That track is made of 30,000 feet of soft pine, at a cost of $5000. After one race it is usually chopped up for firewood. Riders normally go at 24 miles an hour, at 45 in sprints and jams. Their bicycles weigh about 20 pounds each. Six or eight tires are worn out, during the six days, on the three bicycles of each rider. Hundreds of minor injuries are suffered from spills, but few major ones. In 47 years there has been but one fatality.

MUSIC: Something new under the musical sun

ONE OF THE musical marvels of modern times is the blind pianist, Alec Templeton. This engaging young man, who actually makes you forget his handicap, has already proved himself far more than merely an excellent concert performer. He revives the almost forgotten art of improvisation, doing astonishing things with any theme and often combining four or five well-known melodies in a single impromptu composition.

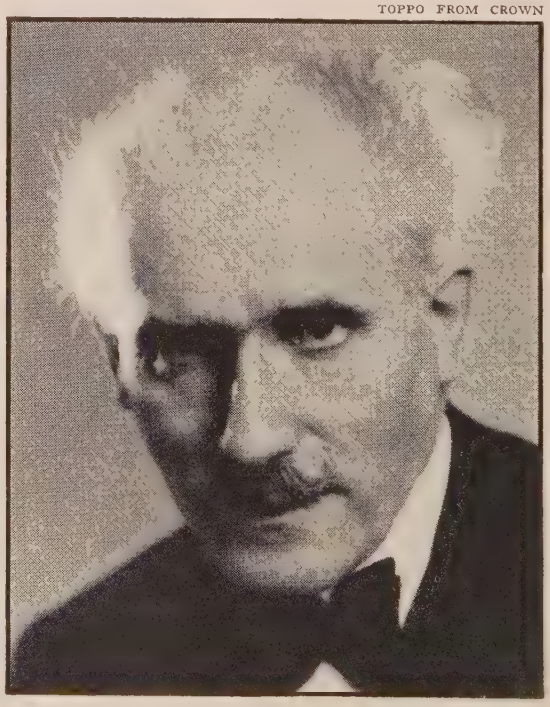
Mr. Templeton can play jazz as well as the classics, and his gift of satire is extraordinary. Audiences at New York's Rainbow Room have been convulsed by his burlesque Wagner and the uproarious effect of adding a Gilbert patter to Sullivan's *Lost Chord*. On the radio he subtly teaches musical form by a clever treatment of familiar tunes. Music becomes honestly popular in the skilled hands of an Alec Templeton.

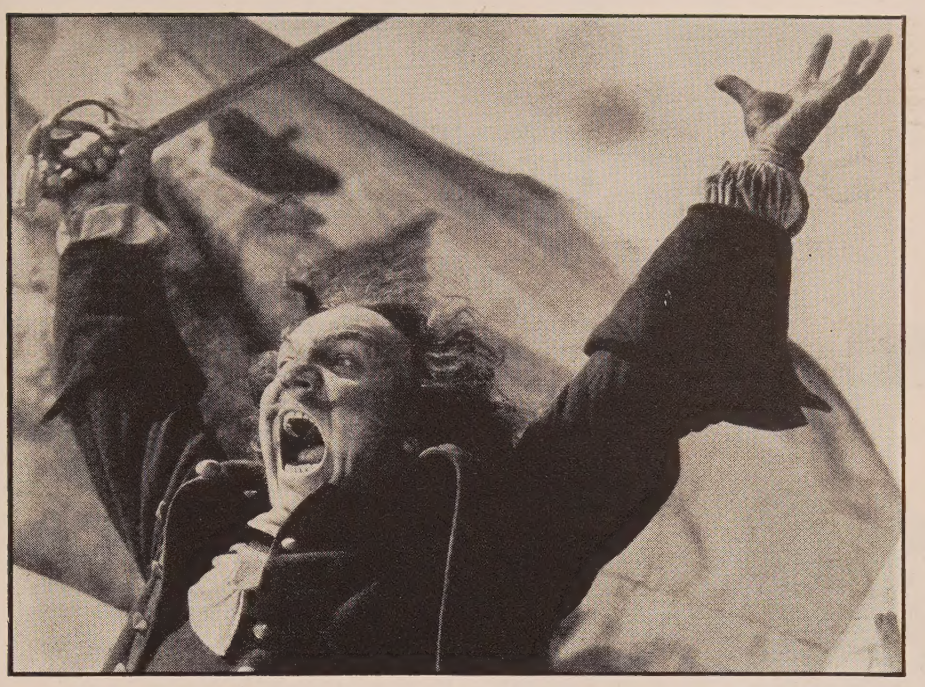
Funny, but is it art?

ACCORDING to the papers, Arturo Toscanini celebrated his arrival in America by threatening to shoot two news photographers, and then kept Messrs. Sarnoff and Royal, of the National Broadcasting Company, waiting an hour outside his stateroom door while he cooled off his temperament. The Italian conductor evidently forgets that, having sold himself to a commercial enterprise, he is

TOSCANINI COMES BACK to conduct the NBC symphony orchestra par excellence

TOPPO FROM CROWN





"PETER THE FIRST," Soviet cinema contribution and winner of the 1937 Paris Exposition Award, unfurls the stirring tale of the Czar who founded St. Petersburg, defeated Charles XII of Sweden, won Russia her first outlet to the sea, and Europeanized his subjects. Overly long, slow in spots, this portrait of Peter the Great and his rude times is none the less a lusty and memorable film experience. It begins in 1700, proceeds through the aggressive phase of his reign when he battled and reformed ruthlessly, takes no note of his last years

bound by business ethics to live up to commercial rules. He cannot afford to insult the press or ignore his employers.

Toscanini has come back to America frankly to make more money, after deserting one of the greatest orchestras of all time and virtually announcing his retirement so far as this country is concerned. His demand for perfection has put a severe strain upon the National Broadcasting Company, inevitably handicapping other programs. The "dream orchestra" gathered for his baton has deprived other bands of outstanding players, and its Saturday night programs compete directly with local concerts in cities which are trying desperately to build up their symphonic music.

It is impossible to quarrel with NBC's magnificent gesture, but it is equally impossible to interpret this aesthetic contribution as a pure piece of philanthropy. As a participant in a business proposition, Mr. Toscanini needs a lesson in business-like behavior, even at an age when commercialism is presumably no longer of importance to him.

Wagnerian Festival Singers

WHEN THEY first appeared in New York, the Wagnerian Festival Singers avoided the music of Wagner but proved beyond question that they could sing, individually and in groups. The festival idea was carried out to the extent that their program consisted of all kinds of music, thrown together indiscriminately. This is the sort of program that musically underfed communities love.

When the Festival Singers concentrate on Wagner, as they did later, they amply justify their name. Alexander Kipnis and Joel Berglund provide a plethora of bass baritone quality and volume; Henk Noort is better than most Wagnerian tenors; Hilda Konetzni looks and sings equally well, while Marta Krasova offers a luscious contralto voice and a girlishly slim figure. Richard Hageman and Karl Young, at the pianos, give authority and an almost orchestral quality to the accompaniments.

For musical readers

WE RECOMMEND—*The Arts,* by Hendrik Willem Van Loon: as big and informal and independent as its Dutch author. *A Little Night Music,* by Gerald Johnson: an amusing and convincing plea for more bad playing in the privacy of the home. *Of Men and Music,* by Deems Taylor: pleasant, conversational essays, with a basis of common sense.

Filming the great composers

PROBABLY the best motion picture yet built from the biography of a musician is *The Life and Loves of Beethoven.* It is of course mostly fictitious and fanciful, but Harry Baur makes the composer come to life in convincing fashion.

There are stories behind the world's great music that would make splendid screen material. The forthcoming film on Chopin should prove interesting. Schumann, Liszt, Verdi, Wagner, Handel, even Bach, may hold movie fans as well as do Pasteur, Zola, or Disraeli.

Eventually the screen might even treat its musical heroes with some semblance of honesty. The absurdities that have grown out of the artificial title of the "Moonlight Sonata" need not be the basic plot of every Beethoven picture. There may actually be more to Wagner and Liszt than their promiscuous love affairs.

TOPICS IN BRIEF

"BRITISH ANGER Is Rising"—headline over a story which provoked hearty laughter in Rome, Berlin, and Tokyo.—*New Orleans Times-Picayune*

Mahatma Gandhi, it is reported, is about to start a New Deal in India. Some think he is in grand shape to enjoy it, having no shirt to start with.—*George Ryan in Boston Herald*

The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace calls upon the country to face the responsibility for the maintenance and defense of "solemn covenants" between nations. To fight for them?—*Springfield (Mass.) Republican*

For future reference remember these freshly-baked definitions: A neutral is a person who is always in trouble. A national is a neutral filling out a complaint blank. Diplomacy is the art of remonstrating without objection and admonishing without reproving.—*Arthur ("Bugs") Baer in New York Journal and American*

In an Oslo newspaper list of Norway's greatest, Sonja Henie is rated five places above Leif Erikson, discoverer of North America. Leif's trouble was that he bogged down in the matter of public relations counsel.—*Arkansas Gazette*

It is wondered why the government is withdrawing $2 bills from circulation—just at a time when a $2 bill comes in so handy for buying a dollar's worth of almost anything.—*Atlanta Journal*

American neutrality policies are severely criticized by the American League of Nations Association. The idea seems to be that we show too much neutrality toward the wrong nations.—*Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*

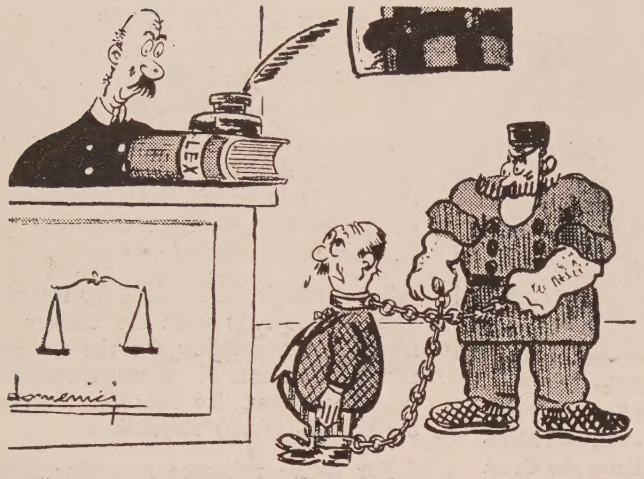
A missing dog returned to its Indiana home carrying a paper in which its loss was advertised. And yet the White House belittles the power of the press!—*Milwaukee Journal*

The gross bonded debt of the states has increased by 34 per cent in the last seven years and now amounts to approximately 14½ billion dollars. The only consoling feature of it is that the states have done better than the government.—*Kansas City Star*

Every time the Filipinos get a fresh batch of dispatches from the Sino-Japanese war they feel a little less independent. —*Memphis Commercial Appeal*

The Spice of Life

(Title registered U. S. Patent Office)



"You admit having broken into the same dress shop four times. What did you steal?"
"A dress for my wife, but she made me change it three times."—*Il 420, Florence*

Long Chance—Herbert Bayard Swope and Harrison Williams were the finalists in a geographic game, wherein the latter was called upon to mention a country, city, etc., starting with an "E." . . . Williams pondered and, with some hesitancy, offered "Elyria." . . . "Unless you refer to 'Illyria' of Greek mythology," Swope said, "I challenge you. That's spelled with an 'I.' Where is Elyria?" . . . Williams hesitated, pondered again, and cautiously whispered: "Ohio. That's it—Ohio." . . . "Ridiculous," Swope insisted. "I'll bet you $500 you're wrong." . . . Williams considered it carefully . . . and took the bet, which finally was increased to $10,000. . . . "Okay," Swope agreed, and reached for an atlas. . . . "Don't bother," Williams told him. . . . "Why not?" Swope replied. "I want to look up Elyria and see if it's in Ohio." . . . "Don't bother," Williams confessed. "I was born there."—*Leonard Lyons in Philadelphia Record*

No Scholar—The census taker came up to the Kentucky mountaineer's home and knocked at the door. A little boy answered.
Census Taker: "Where's your father, young man?"
L.B.: "He's in jail."
C.T.: "Well, where's your mother?"
L.B.: "She's in the insane asylum."
C.T.: "Have you any brothers or sisters?"
L.B.: "I have a brother at Harvard."
C.T.: "At Harvard! What's he doing there?"
L.B.: "He's in a bottle; he has two heads."—Georgia Tech Yellow Jacket

Handy Man—Lady: "So you are on a submarine? Tell me, what do you do?"
Sailor: "Oh, I run forward and hold her nose when we're going to dive."—*Annapolis Log*

Innuendo—"Someone throw an ax at you?"
"Nope, got a haircut."
"Well, sit higher in the chair next time."—Columbia Jester

From London—How an American misses good coffee! The English don't drink it for fear it might keep them awake all day.—*Walter O'Keefe in New York World-Telegram*

What the Ad Men Hear—"Wouldn't it be better, perhaps, if my name was mentioned more often?"
"Yeah—sure, advertising pays—right through my nose."
"I want a slogan—something like Klassy Kut Klothes."
"Make 'em feel they're getting my product for nothing."
"My son goes to college. I'll have him look this copy over for corrections in grammar."—*John Chapman in New York Daily News*

Reparations—Out here in Hollywood not long ago a lady divorced her husband so she could marry a rich man and the rich man gave the husband a hundred thousand dollars to mend his broken heart.
It reminds me of the time my cousin Orchie met a married lady and they fell in love. She told Orchie that if he could get her husband to divorce her, she'd marry him. So Orchie went like a man and spoke to her husband about it.
When he came back to her, she says, "Well, did my husband carry on much?" and Orchie says, "Yes—he said he was gonna feel the loss terribly, but I squared it with a good cigar."—Bob Burns in New York Post

Different—Visitor to asylum: "Why do you say you are George Washington? The last time I was here you said you were Napoleon Bonaparte."
Inmate: "Yes, that's true, but that was by my first wife."—*Farm Journal*

No Fool—Joan Blondell's son, Norman, 3½ years old in stockinged feet, is a determined young character who is in training to become a confirmed eccentric. The other night, Joan asked him to fetch her something from the clothes closet. The closet was very dark and the kid balked. "Too dark," he insisted.
"Oh, come, come," commanded Joan. "What are you—man or mouse?"
Norman shrugged his shoulders.
"I'm a mouse," he replied indifferently—and walked off.
—Louis Sobol in Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Emotion—(Sign seen ornamenting a Kentucky farmer's acres)
Trespassers will be persecuted to the full extent of two mongrel dogs which ain't never been too sociable with strangers, and one dubble barl shotgun which ain't loaded with sofa pillows. DAM if I ain't gettin' tired of this hell raisin' round my place.—*Awgwan*

"Facial restoration is so dear—have you no cheaper remedy?"
"Yes, madam—a veil."—*Holite Humour, London*

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"He's had three raises since. He has more than doubled his salary—and he earns every dollar I pay him.

"Last week I recommended him for Assistant Treasurer, and the Board elected him without a dissenting vote. We're mighty glad to have him in the group.

"But *you*, Jarvis—I hate to say it—you're a *business coward.* You *knew* what you would have to do to get out of the small-pay class. You were simply afraid to face the kind of effort and responsibility that could get you a substantial salary.

"And now it's too late. We've got to watch our overhead, and you're one of about five men that we can get along without. We could replace the lot of you tomorrow.

"For your own sake, Jarvis, take a tip from a man who has been through the mill, and *this* time get busy and learn to do something better than the other fellow.

"Jarvis, there's *no end* of opportunity in business; but the only man who cashes in these days is the man with the courage to get special training. The offices of this country are simply cluttered up with business cowards. It's easy for the man who *trains*—because the business coward is through before he starts."

* * *

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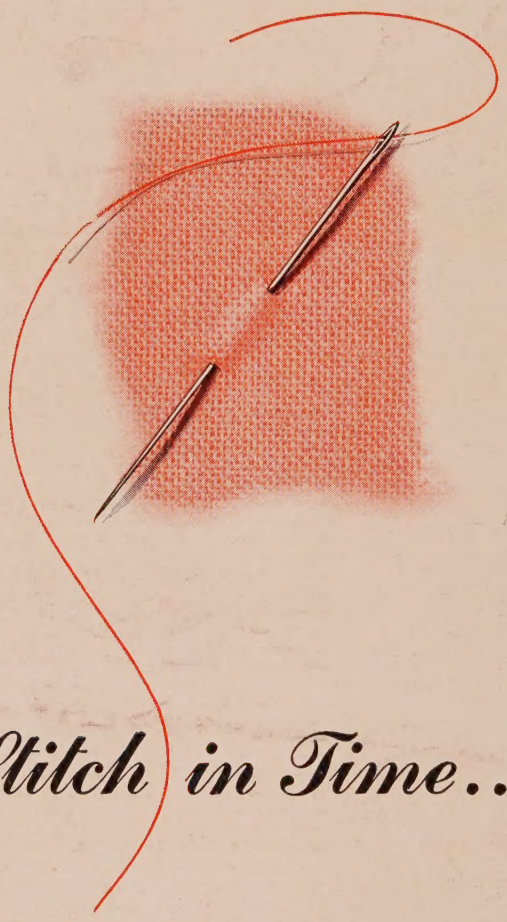

A Stitch in Time...

FOR everybody there comes a day when it is too late. You "cross the line." One day you can get life insurance. The next day you can't.

Last year many thousands of people who wanted life insurance tried to get it and failed. Some health impairment had set in. They had waited too long.

While you are in good health, life insurance may not seem a pressing matter. Usually, it seems urgent only when you are ill or when you have escaped from what might have been a fatal accident.

When the agent urges you not to delay, you may feel he is too persistent. Perhaps you say "he just wants to write an application." But that isn't all. That notice "Rejected for Medical Reasons" is an old story with him. He sees it too often not to realize that in buying life insurance delays are dangerous.

Although many persons who are substandard risks can now be insured, due to progress in life underwriting, nevertheless in 1936 it has been estimated that over 300,000 applications for approximately $1,000,000,000 of life insurance had to be declined by American life insurance companies.

If you intend to own more life insurance "some day," why not take the first step now, before it is too late?

SAFETY IS ALWAYS THE FIRST CONSIDERATION...NOTHING ELSE IS SO IMPORTANT

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

A Mutual Company founded on April 12, 1845

THOMAS A. BUCKNER, *Chairman of the Board* — 51 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. — ALFRED L. AIKEN, *President*